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WEEKLY NOTES.

ONE week more of the obstruction of public business in the United States Senate, to the growing disgust of the American people. It is no secret now that Mr. GARFIELD shares in the dissatisfaction generally felt, and is impatient for the confirmation or rejection of the hundreds of nominations now pending before the body. The apologists for the course taken by each side still seek to find fine-spun relations between the struggle and the larger issues of our national politics. The Democrats want to be regarded as battling for the defeat of a corrupt bargain between the Republicans and Mr. MAHONE; the Republicans represent themselves as fighting for the break-up of Bourbon rule in the South, and hold up Mr. MAHONE as the WINKELRIED who is sacrificing himself to the work of breaking the solid ranks of their enemies. But the popular verdict is simply that this is a struggle for petty offices of no political significance, which ought never to have been begun, and ought to be ended as soon as possible.

The details of the useless debate are generally dreary, but sometimes enlivened by undignified personalities and sometimes with amusing blunders. One of the latter was the point made by Senator BROWN of Georgia, that several of the New England States were Republican only through the exclusion of illiterate persons, habitual drunkards, and the like, from the right of suffrage. The best feature of the debate is that it has forced Southern Senators to face the question of repudiation and to attempt an apology for the conduct of their own States in this regard since the war. They have found it by no means an easy matter to frame their excuses; and, if we do not mistake their tone, they have discovered that pleas which answered well enough in State Legislatures and conventions, are found frightfully thin and unsatisfactory when paraded before a more critical audience. The MAHONE episode will have done great service if it helps to awaken the conscience of the Southern people in this matter. Every one of those States is advancing rapidly in wealth at the present moment; and the noble example just set by Tennessee should find plenty of imitators.

It is well known that one section of the Republicans are finding their advantage in this delay of public business, as they are using it to organize opposition to the appointments proposed by Mr. GARFIELD. Mr. CONKLING and Mr. CAMERON are known to have joined hands for a resistance of this sort; and they are working hard to obtain from other parts of the Senate support sufficient for their purpose. We do not believe that they will meet with success. The Western Senators have no quarrel with Mr. GARFIELD, and cannot afford to pick one. He has not given them, by his nominations, the offence Mr. HAYES gave. They have no positive grievance of any kind, nor have their constituencies. So far as we can learn, only two Republican newspapers outside of New York,—*The Globe-Democrat* of St. Louis, and *The Inter-Ocean* of Chicago,—have expressed any dissatisfaction with the nominations which have displeased Mr. CONKLING. And with these signs of the times before their eyes, those Senators are not likely to provoke a needless conflict.

Besides this, Mr. GARFIELD occupies a much stronger position than did Mr. HAYES. The administration of the latter was regarded

by the Stalwarts, as well as by the Democrats, as a temporary dispensation. But the struggle at Chicago, and the signs of Independent vigor in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, have shown that Mr. GARFIELD is about the only type of Republican that can unite the party and secure an election. The dreams of a return of the GRANT era have vanished into thin air; and the chances of the election of anybody who will give matters up to the control of the Senatorial Ring, are more remote than ever. Even the Stalwarts see that the Republican party is not going back to the condition of things which existed before the election of Mr. HAYES, and that they must choose between Democratic rule and the rule of such a President as the Independents will vote for. Mr. GARFIELD is therefore not a President *ad interim*; his resistance to the control of the CONKLING-CAMERON Ring represents the minimum of reformatory action which will be exacted also of his successors.

MR. SWANK's report on the statistics of our iron and steel production for the Tenth Census, covers one of the most important of our industrial interests, and exhibits a growth in the last ten years which has surprised even those who were best acquainted with the facts. The increase in the capital invested has been nearly ninety per cent., and the total now reaches \$230,000,000. Of this, nearly one-half is in Pennsylvania, which still keeps its place as the chief centre of the industry, which it has held for over a hundred years. Of the fifteen counties which produce more than a hundred thousand tons of iron, ten are in Pennsylvania. In quantity, the increase is from 1,441,829, to 2,353,248 tons of iron of various grades, and the value of the iron and steel produced—not including manufactures of iron and steel—is \$296,557,685. It is especially gratifying to note that the industry is growing rapidly in the West and in the South, which have produced, respectively, during the year, \$50,775,990 and \$29,145,830 worth of iron and steel. When the chairman of the British Iron and Steel Association visited this country, some years ago, he got new light, he said, on the subject of Protection. He could no longer believe that a nation which had created such an industry on its soil, would again abandon that industry to any foreign competition which might prove injurious to it. And he advised his English friends to make up their minds to expect a growing competition from the iron-men of America.

On the question of price, to which Free Trade always insists on turning our attention, the results have been equally satisfactory. We are now supplied with iron and steel at much lower rates than we ever got them when we were dependent upon England. Partly this is due to improvements in the methods of manufacture; but, as nearly all these improvements are of American origin, they are due indirectly to the Tariff. But in greater part they are due to the development of the manufacture on a great scale among us, and to the wholesome competition which keeps prices down—except during rare and temporary spasms of scarcity,—to the lowest figures consistent with the high rate of wages paid to our workmen and demanded by the high standard of comfort which is found among them. In some important branches it is conceded that our industry now can stand any amount of fair competition from foreigners. Thus, the American correspondent of the London *Ironmonger* says that American manufacturers of tools and cutlery have ceased to petition

for a reduction of the duties on the grades of steel they use, because American steel is just as good and as cheap as that which they used to import from Sheffield.

It is worth while to quote the reason for the delay in the passage of the Eaton Bill for the Revision of the Tariff, given by *The Iron-monger's* correspondent: "This delay is an honest disappointment to the friends of Protection. They know perfectly well that, as it stands, the Tariff is very unsatisfactory; that it is a patchwork document, out of harmony with itself, and dealing largely with the commercial nomenclature of twenty odd years ago, difficult of interpretation in its relations to many of the products of later mechanical progress. They concede that in many items the rates of duty charged are too high, and that a careful general revision would give us a better tariff system in all respects. The manufacturers are a unit in favor of such revision, and, but for Democratic obstinacy in the House, it would have passed. Naturally, the Free Traders and Revenue Reformers object to any such revision. They do not want the Tariff made satisfactory, and the elimination of its absurdities and incongruities would leave them nothing to talk about."

Had Mr. EATON'S Bill been passed promptly, when first proposed and urged upon Congress by the manufacturers, we might have had a revised and satisfactory Tariff in force by this time. And an important industry might have escaped the serious blow dealt to it by a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, admitting some, if not all, classes of knit woolen goods at fifty per cent. less duty than has been charged heretofore. We do not question the accuracy of the interpretation of the law, but only call attention to the injustice done to a great New England industry by leaving the law so ambiguous, through use of terms and distinctions now obsolete in this industry, as made the decision possible; and pending its revision we look to Mr. WINDOM for such a strict application of the principle involved in the decision as will limit the mischief done as much as possible.

CHICAGO has had a strike which caused, while it lasted, great public inconvenience, but which enlisted popular sympathy on the side of the strikers in a way which did great credit to the people of that city. The drivers and conductors on the street cars struck for higher wages and against deductions from their wages for the time when the snow prevented the cars from running; and the Chicago public gave them every kind of moral support, bearing the privation of this means of conveyance with patience, and cheering the men along the lines of travel when they resumed work after the surrender of the companies. None of those wise people who know that a strike is always wrong, and must injure the workmen more than it helps them, seem to have taken up their residence in Chicago.

The unspeakable tyranny practiced upon this class of workmen in our great cities should be brought into daylight, and the companies forced to act with humanity. The number of hours of labor exacted of them is beyond all reason, while they are hardly allowed time to gulp down their dinner before starting on a new trip. The men on the New York elevated roads are kept at work a far greater number of hours than they are able to exert that energetic vigilance which is required for the public safety; and while there has been no great accident to life or limb, as yet, on these roads, the public owes it to itself to insist that a reasonable maximum of time shall be fixed for brakemen, conductors and engineers. It is well known that overwork is a constant cause of serious accidents on railroads. In Philadelphia, there is not, as yet, the special danger of elevated railroads, but there is abundance of inhumanity and petty tyranny practiced upon this class of workmen.

THE new Mayor of Philadelphia seems determined to live fully up to the pledges he gave before his election. While his police force are Republicans, and he himself a Democrat, Mr. KING has made, and will make, no removals, except for good cause. So long as they do their duty, they can keep their places without question. In this way, he is able to exact of them a far stricter attention to their duties than could his predecessors. For the very first effect of using the police as political workers is to lower the tone of the service. The policeman who regards himself as a partner of the Mayor in the work of carrying the city for his own party, is never likely to have an eye single to the work of his proper calling. He expects an abatement in the demand for vigilance as a watchman, in compensation for services rendered as a politician; and in nine cases out of ten he gets what he expects. If Mayor KING has the firmness to carry out his programme against the protests of his own party, he will have inaugurated a new system of civic government in America. Not in the memory of any one now living has any great American city had a non-partisan police. It is in Philadelphia,—in some quarters regarded as a Nazareth among American cities,—that it is achieved for the first time. And if the Democrats show their good sense in renominating Mr. KING after two years of such administration as he promises, he will get a great many votes that were given his rival last time.

But, of course, the non-partisan character should not be monopolized by the police department, nor should it depend upon the will and judgment of any one person. We need, above all things, in every American city, a reform of every branch of the Civil Service upon the basis of tenure during good behavior. No one would welcome this more cordially than the employés themselves. They are heartily sick of the tyrannies of the Boss system, and would rejoice in having the liberty to confine their attention to their proper duties.

MR. GLADSTONE'S Land Bill evidently has divided the Land Leaguers into two parties, sundering the mere agitators from those who really sought by this means to better the condition of the people. Mr. DILLON steps forward as the representative of the former class, and of a very small fraction of the League. He denounces the bill, *in toto*, as a delusion and a snare; and he wants the League members of Parliament to oppose it as heartily as they did the Coercion Law. But Mr. PARNELL and the less extravagant Leaguers regard the bill as going a great way toward giving the Irish people all that they need; and, while he objects to the weakness of some parts of the measure and the complexity of others, he thinks that the Irish members should exert themselves to secure its amendment in committee, rather than its rejection. Mr. PARNELL especially objects to the emigration clauses, and to those which seem to favor the extinction of the very small holdings. Instead of a migration of the Irish people to the colonies, he wishes to see their transfer from the crowded parts of Connaught to the grazing lands of Meath and similar districts; and he decidedly objects to the idea that the expatriation of the Irish people by wholesale is a proper remedy for their sufferings at home. But we observe that, according to the London newspapers, it was in regard to large assistance to associated emigration that Mr. GLADSTONE was most emphatic and liberal in his professions, and was most warmly applauded by the English and Scotch members of the House. We regret this; for, while we regard the measure as a palliative but no cure for Irish evils, we should like Mr. GLADSTONE to get credit from the Irish people for his genuinely good intentions with regard to Ireland. He has done, or is ready to do, all that a *foreign* ruler can be expected to effect for the country. But he will not get much credit if the Irish think they hear in his speech the echo of all the unreasonable, insolent talk they have heard from England on this subject since 1847.

THE Irish landlords, as was expected, have taken advantage of the Coercion Laws to begin the eviction of such of their tenants as have not, from whatever cause, paid their rents in full during the past two years. In March the number of evictions rose to 215, an increase by five-fold in one month; and, under the pressure furnished by the prospect of the Land Bill becoming a law, a still greater increase is expected. The League members reminded Mr. FORSTER of his pledge given in August, that, in case the power to evict were used unmercifully, he would take measures to put a period to it, or at least would refuse "to remain any longer the instrument of injustice." But Mr. FORSTER's attitude of mind toward the Land Agitation has changed since August from sympathy to impatience. Then he gave the League aid and comfort; now he sends its more active members to jail and refuses to tell them, or even Parliament, what their crime has been. Then he, of his own accord, called the attention of Parliament to the great number of evictions. Now he refers to them only when there is a decrease, and was brought only by the taunts of the Leaguers to announce the great increase in the month of March. He now assumes that, where rents have not been paid, the farmers were quite able to pay, but refused so to do under advice from the Land League.

While Mr. FORSTER has grown less useful and kindly to the Irish people, in at least one point Mr. GLADSTONE has improved. He does not mean to have the Peers throw out his Land Bill, as they did the bill to restrain evictions, without making his appeal against them to the country. To this he pledged himself in the speech introducing the bill. Some regard this threat of a dissolution, in case the Lords should throw out the bill, as sufficient to secure its passage at once. That depends upon the view which the Lords take of the political sentiments of the English constituencies. If they regard the prospects of a Tory victory as good, they may reject the bill just for the sake of the dissolution. And there is room for that view of the matter. The Irishmen who voted solidly for the Liberal candidates at the last election, would vote against every Liberal who supported the Coercion Bill, or who would not pledge himself to vote for its immediate repeal. The Coventry election shows both the strength and the temper of this class of voters; and we may be sure that these signs of the times are not wasted on the members of the Upper House. The Liberals count on the Irish being "reasonable" enough to support a party which dissolves Parliament for the sake of a measure meant for the good of Ireland. But no Irish Celt will support Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. FORSTER while MICHAEL DAVITT lingers in a felon's cell because he supported the cause of the Irish people. It is the misfortune of the Liberal Ministry that they have enlisted against themselves some of the strongest and noblest instincts of the Irish character.

MR. GLADSTONE's budget speech contains some striking indications of the fact that England has reached the boundary of that career of growth and prosperity which she has enjoyed since the great gold discoveries of 1848-54, and which she is fond of attributing to Free Trade. One was his use of the phrase "the setting sun of prosperity," with reference to recent years of depression. Another was his announcement that the additional penny in the pound of income tax, which was imposed last year, brought in £47,000 less than did a penny in the pound in 1877-8, indicating a falling off of \$56,400,000 in the taxable income of the United Kingdom. Still another was the unpleasant discovery that, while population and expenditure were increasing, the revenue was diminishing in a slight but sensible degree. All this seems to show that England has begun to reach that "limit to our national increased prosperity" which MR. DUDLEY BAXTER, in 1868, declared would come with "the future rise of the United States into a great manufacturing power." And there can be no severer criticism

upon England's national house-keeping than this dependence for her growth upon the relative inferiority of other countries.

Another indication of this same depressed condition of English enterprise is found in the mania for speculation which just at present rages in London. It is frequently the case that the closing of the legitimate channels of enterprise is followed by just such a time of extravagant ventures. We saw such in this country in 1837 and in 1857, when the changes in our Tariff Laws prevented the farther expansion of our manufacturing system, and even forced its contraction, leaving large sums to find an outlet in land speculation and the like. The fact that it does not pay to put money into an extension of British manufactures, is causing a similar state of things in London. Mining and other stocks, though of a purely "fancy" character, are selling at high prices; and persons are invited to embark their money in new companies on the express ground that a few weeks after the books have been opened, and before there has been a chance to test the soundness of the enterprise, there will be a high premium on the shares. Within two years, the market value of the older stocks has advanced twenty per cent.; and the new have been increased in quantity at a rate which dazes the weaker heads, who seem incapable of recollecting where all this must end.

IN Lord BEACONSFIELD, England loses one of the most remarkable and picturesque figures in her politics. Upon his career we have commented elsewhere at some length. His guiding principle seems to have been antagonism to that average of good sense and hand-to-mouth policy which had been the stock in trade of the Whig party. He had been both a Radical and a Tory, because both are parties of ideas, and of ideas not found mutually exclusive in a mind which had no practical ties to either. History will put him on record as the man who fought the last fight for Protection, extended the suffrage to the working classes, and united both extremes of society in the support of a Jingo policy. His two great powers in his political life were impudence and epigram. The former was finely illustrated in his deliberate appropriation of the French oration which he pronounced over the Duke of WELLINGTON. In the latter, he was never quite the equal of his old friend and enemy,—O'Connell; but the man who could call the Whig occupants of the Treasury Bench "a row of extinct volcanoes," had wit enough to put his words into a shape in which they would circulate. As Americans, we owe him something for the strict reserve he practiced during our civil war, when his greatest rival blundered into a false estimate of its true significance and outcome. But he had, and professed, no great regard for America. In his eyes, we and all we did had a provincial flavor.

We do not think it probable that his death will give any new direction to English politics. It will only leave the Tories a little more conservative, by depriving them of the "educator" under whose leadership the party played such unexpected antics in the matter of extending the suffrage. A Tory leader, he was himself no Tory, and probably despised "the great stupid party" as heartily as did any of his Liberal rivals. Indeed, his great weakness was that he struck no genuine roots into any stratum of English soil, and shared in none of the nobler sympathies which characterize any of its parties.

THE English people have been brought face to face with a troublesome question of personal rights in the use of the streets. The Salvation Army, of which a couple of detachments have been at work in our own country, has grown to very large proportions in England. It is not a new or separate sect, but an association of persons belonging to various Protestant sects who aim to arouse the attention of the brutalized and indifferent classes in the English cities. For this purpose it employs modes of action which

are now regarded as novel, although employed freely in former times by the Primitive Methodists, who thus earned the misnomer of "Ranters." They march through the streets of the cities on Sundays, singing hymns to very lively tunes, and collecting a crowd as they proceed to their place of worship. In the old-fashioned town of Basingstoke they managed to excite the wrath of the publican class by associating their religious work with an agitation in favor of total abstinence; and the keepers of the public-houses seem to have organized a mob warfare upon their processions. The Mayor of the town maintains that he has the right to prohibit processions wherever they are likely to provoke breaches of the peace, and has done so by proclamation. The Salvationists, by advice of the Home Secretary, decided to test his right to do so, and on the Sunday after the proclamation they paraded the streets just long enough to secure the arrest of some of their number, whose trial will secure a legal decision of the matter.

Whether the Salvationists have or have not adopted the best method of religious propaganda, they have enlisted a good deal of sympathy from all classes by their assertion of their right to use the streets for any lawful purpose, and to be protected in that use. The notion that processions of any kind have no rights in the streets, except by sufferance, is deeply rooted in both England and America. But it is one, we believe, which has no sanction in the common law; and if the English courts in this case shall help to upset the opinion that wagons and drays have a right which processions have not, or that the use of the streets to make money has a higher sanction than their use for the promotion of any religious or moral idea, the world will have gained something from these Basingstoke disturbances.

GREECE finds herself embarrassed between the weakness of her friends and the staunchness of her enemies, and is fain to take such terms as the Turks are pleased to offer, although Europe decided in solemn conclave that she had a right to ask much more. Beyond her new boundaries lie large Hellenic populations, under the rule of "the unspeakable Turk." They have no right to keep arms for self-defence; their oath is of no value in the Cadi's court; they pay a tribute averaging a third of their income, while the Turk and the apostates pay tithe. And these people Europe now forces her to leave to their fate and to every outrage their Moslem masters may think fit to inflict. While she submits, she has not abandoned them utterly. She commands them to the consideration of the Europe which has betrayed both her and them, and suggests that at least they be treated as were the Bulgarians, *i.e.*, invested with local self-government under the suzerainty of the Sultan. The one bright side of the situation is that Greece has a future, while the Sultanate has none.

ROUMANIA has declared herself a kingdom, and takes her place among the lesser powers of Europe. The country has had a most romantic history. The Roman colonists planted by TRAJAN in Dacia, instead of abandoning the country when the Empire ceded it to the Goths, seem to have left the plains to those Teutonic invaders, and to have secured themselves in the Carpathian Mountains against these and the long series of invaders which swept from time to time across the country. At last they became strong enough to extend their power over the plains, to absorb Slavic and Tartar colonists, and to restore the empire of Latin civilization and Romance speech throughout more than the lands conquered by TRAJAN. The Moslem conquest and the Turkish oppression did nothing to destroy the continuity and homogeneity of this Romance people. They were the first to emerge from the flood of Ottoman invasion, and to assert their place as an independent people under the suzerainty of the Sultan. The recent war,—in which they gave a more gallant assistance to Russia than anything in their re-

cent history would lead us to expect,—secured their independence of Turkey; and, if it stripped them of Bessarabia on the one side, it compensated them by the gift of the Dobruja on the other. The Roumanians, apart from their historical toughness, are not a remarkable people in either a moral or an intellectual sense, nor do they add much to the strength of European civilization by their independence. But their new position gives them the chance to show the best that is in them, and to rise above the sloth and the love of pleasure which have been too generally their characteristics.

AESOP'S wolf belonged to a decidedly primitive era of diplomatic development, as was shown by allowing that unfortunate lamb to get the better of him on every point of the controversy which preceded his dinner. Whenever, in modern times, a large State wishes to play wolf to a smaller one, the latter is so manipulated as to put itself in the wrong, and to furnish ample justification for all the aggression which was intended. We have seen this in the case of Denmark, Paraguay, Afghanistan, Zululand and the Transvaal Republic. And now Tunis, after a long period of peaceful behavior, becomes all at once unendurably rampageous towards France. French travellers and officials are murdered; an anti-French propaganda, whatever that may mean, is active throughout the country; and, in a word, the lamb is both fat for eating and too warlike to be left uneaten any longer.

It is beyond question that Tunis is in danger of absorption from France, and that Germany acquiesces very heartily in this proposal. At first the French will ask nothing but the acknowledgment of their own supremacy over Tunis, and will leave the people so much of their autonomy as is consistent with that arrangement; but after this arrangement has lasted for some years, there will follow the complete absorption of the little State into Algiers. It is quite possible, indeed, that Italy and Turkey will exert influence enough to prevent either step. Italy owes Tunis her support, as it was the terms of her commercial treaty with Tunis which first prompted the war. Sooner than see the French swallow Tunis in this summary way, the Italians have driven the party of the Left from power, as a punishment for their indifference, and have put the control of affairs into the hands of the Right, who have been in opposition almost ever since the death of CAOUR. And Turkey probably will insist that one suzerain,—the Sultan, to wit,—is about as much as Tunis can bear.

We are surprised to see that the *Spectator* allows its hatred of the Moslem to carry it into an approval of this wicked war upon Tunis. It suggests that, if Italy will seize on Tripoli as a compensation for the French occupation of Tunis, there will be a double gain for civilization from barbarism. Whether the people of these two States are civilized or barbarous, they have a right to their autonomy, since they oppress no one at home, and occasion no danger to their neighbors. A war on Tunis on such flimsy pretences as France puts forward, is in no sense parallel to the wars for the expulsion of the Turks from Europe. In neither country is there a Christian majority living under Moslem rule. In both, as throughout all the Barbary States, Christianity has been exterminated for over a millennium. And there is room to doubt whether civilized countries render any real service to others less civilized by such invasions as this. They do interrupt the whole course of their natural development, and destroy nearly all that was worth preserving in their character. But they do not manage to build anything of equal value in place of what they have destroyed.

THE British Empire in India is a test case as to the influences of a civilized race upon less advanced peoples whom it has brought under its control. The poverty of India, and the impossibility of making both ends meet in its finances, form one of the most unpleasant topics an English Government can find for reflection. The

deficit for 1879-80 was twenty-four and a half millions of dollars; that for 1880-81 forty-one and a third millions. To increase the taxation of the people might bring on another mutiny. Two sources of revenue,—both infamous,—the opium and the salt monopolies,—are both precarious. Mr. CAIRD, the highest authority on English agriculture, has made a careful examination of the country, and pronounces "that affairs in many parts of India look as bad as they can for the ryots," as English rule has been accompanied by such deterioration of the soil as threatens widespread disaster. The constant recurrence of famine is accepted as inevitable, and Mr. HUNTER shows that fifty millions of the people, year after year, have very insufficient food. Just at present, crops are good; but, instead of the people being able to put by something against the inevitable day of disaster, they have to spend it in paying arrears of land tax, and are growing still poorer in resources. Against famine the Government has made no provision. The special tax raised for that purpose was laid out on the Afghan war. The country produces a surplus of food at present, but British commerce drains it away, instead of storing a part in preparation for scarcity, while British finance has saddled the country with a great debt, incurred to pay for unremunerative public works, and held by foreign creditors.

LORD BEACONSFIELD.

WE can understand fully the general sympathy for LORD BEACONSFIELD which has been felt throughout the English-speaking world since first he placed himself at the head of the Conservative party. His talent, his patience, his courage under adverse circumstances, have commanded and merited admiration everywhere, and, perhaps, the most implacable of his foes was inwardly glad,—or, at least, not sorry—to see those qualities rewarded by a Premiership, an earldom, and the blue riband of the Garter. Nor are we of those critics who would blame the eccentricities of his political youth, or censure him for not undertaking and accomplishing the work done by his great rival, GLADSTONE. A young man desirous of forcing himself into the front ranks of political life, is likely enough to play fantastic tricks, and these may be forgiven in view of his immaturity and ambition. And it is the province of a Conservative to resist reforming innovations, to preserve the existing order of things so long as he may. For this reason we do not deem it necessary to make deep scrutiny into Lord BEACONSFIELD's home policy. With his now fading name there is identified little that is good in English statesmanship. No great measure can be credited to him, if we except the Ten Minutes Reform Bill, and this was imposed upon him by sheer force of circumstances and was passed against his opposition. The proper point, therefore, from which to regard the Earl of BEACONSFIELD, is from that of the party leader. It is on his accomplishments as a politician rather than a statesman, that his friends rest his claim to fame. His personal instincts were doubtless rather revolutionary than otherwise, with the limitation that the earnestness of Radicalism seemed to him more ludicrous than the solemn and respectable stupidity of Toryism.

But his Conservatism was not sincere. His heart was in it, but not of it. He had no sympathy with the economic policy of his party, and he took no real interest in its success, except in so far as he was personally concerned. When a man elects to be judged from the lower stand-point of a party leader, the first question to be asked is—How did he lead his party? At the last general election, the Conservatives elected 233 members; when the Earl entered office, the party had 349; when he first came to the front, in 1847, it had 326. In Scotland, Wales and Ireland, his party is practically dead. Even in the English counties its supremacy has been successfully challenged. There is no party machinery; the only Conservative journal of ability—the *Standard*,

—is in sullen revolt; and in neither House is there a man of such talent, tact and experience as are necessary to the management of a great political organization. In the Lords, the Marquis of SALISBURY cannot be counted on,—he is uncertain and unsafe; and Lord CAIRNS is welcomed only as an intruder. In the House, the single comparatively strong man is Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, and his conspicuous budget failures have left him in that unhappy state where he neither inspires his followers nor his country with confidence. The one man who should have succeeded Lord BEACONSFIELD,—Lord DERBY,—now sits with the Opposition. Lastly, the party has been beaten down by the very Reform Bill which it passed. An extension of the suffrage was, of course, inevitable in 1867; but it was the policy of the Conservatives to let the Liberals pass it, offering criticism and warning, rather than factious opposition, and when it was passed, their plain duty was to accommodate themselves to the new order of things. From the petty point of view of the party leader, we find in Lord BEACONSFIELD a great deal to condemn and but little to applaud.

A spirited foreign policy is almost of necessity imposed upon a Conservative leader. With the justice of Lord BEACONSFIELD's policy in the Transvaal, Afghanistan and the East, we have less to do than with its sincerity and success. Errors a man may make in such matters; but where they are committed through earnestness and good intention, they are readily condoned. The fatal insincerity—we do not mean deliberate untruthfulness, but the desire for stage effect and Oriental illusion—which was the most conspicuous characteristic of Lord BEACONSFIELD, was here most visible, and with fatal effect. The nation has repudiated the steps he took in Afghanistan and in South Africa, and the unprecedented nature of this act shows how deeply it is condemned. His apparently zealous defence of Turkey resulted in her spoliation by himself, and probably in an understanding with France that the work of spoliation should be completed by the annexation of Tunis to Algeria. The Congress of Berlin, at which Lord BEACONSFIELD eclipsed BISMARCK and GORTSCHAKOFF, proved merely a pre-arranged sham, and in the very midst of his fiery, epigrammatic denunciations of the Russians he was negotiating with them with the stealth of a thief.

Laying aside all considerations of eternal justice, truth and progress, and viewing Lord BEACONSFIELD's political career from the only standpoint from which such a career seems defensible, the conclusion is forced that it was not successful. A management which involves a party in ruin after it has been "educated" out of all its distinctive principles, and which provides no successor in the leadership, nor any of the machinery necessary to its administration, is not successful. A policy which is found out to be a glittering sham and a consistent injustice, is not patriotic. But the talent, the fearless inconsistency, the patient labor, the indomitable will, which placed a man of a proscribed race, without fortune or social influence, at the head of a great aristocratic party; which secured for him an earldom, the Garter, the Premiership and the ascendancy over an almost infatuated sovereign—these cannot be overlooked or under-estimated. The Earl of BEACONSFIELD made a success of himself, for himself. If he had only labored—if he had been capable of laboring,—with the same tenacity and zeal for the real interests of his party, for the benefit of his country and the advancement of his kind, he would have left a sweeter, a more honorable, and a far less perishable, fame.

THE NEW LAND LAW FOR IRELAND. II.

A NY reform in a legal system assumes that the existing system of law is unjust and oppressive; that there exists an ideal of a just and fair law before the mind of the reformer, and that he is laboring to effect such an approximation of the law to the ideal

as will remove the injustice. Is this the case with the Irish Land Law? Certainly not. Mr. GLADSTONE denies that the Irish land laws can be called iniquitous, and describes them as differing from those of England chiefly in taking better care of the tenant's interest. He and his friends do not propose to readjust the land laws of England to any such ideal as is implied in this bill. Its American admirers would resist to the utmost any application of its principles to the laws of their several States. They would say, just as the Duke of ARGYLL says, that it involves unjustifiable interference with the rights of property, and that its passage could not but prove suicidal. The laws of Pennsylvania throw no such safeguards around tenants as Mr. GLADSTONE proposes for Irish tenants. They secure neither fixity of tenure under penalty for ejectment, nor fair rent determined by a court, nor free sale. And yet we regard our laws as quite satisfactory, and as approaching the ideal of just laws near enough for all purposes.

It will be said, however, that the condition of things in Ireland is very different from that in Pennsylvania, and that the difference justifies this exceptional sort of legislation. What is the difference? What caused it? How far is it the effect of bad land laws?—how far the effect of other laws, which need to be amended before the land laws are touched? These are the preliminary questions which one might expect to have answered; but in the discussion of the subject on both sides of the water they are touched either very lightly or not at all.

The misery of the Irish condition we conceive to be briefly this: That in Ireland there is little or nothing to do except to get and cultivate a piece of land. The man who will not do that must either starve or emigrate. As a consequence, the people are forced into the land market to compete for the possession of land. Having no other industries at hand, they carry on their farming under unfavorable conditions. Whatever they sell involves them in the cost of transportation to a distance. Whatever spare time they have on their hands after their bit of farming is done, they are forced to spend in idleness. Whatever labor does not find an opening in agriculture, runs to waste also. Their towns are filled with a great host of people living in forced idleness and abject poverty. The farmer class are, in most instances, only one degree higher above the level of want. And, when a bad season comes, all their eggs being in one basket, they have a famine and die of hunger, if the world does not come to their help.

To this is due the rack-rent system of land-tenure, which is so much deplored. Rack-rent is simply a market-rent. It is the highest rent the landlord can get in open market, in the face of the competition of the people for a bit of land. Lands in America are rented at rack-rent more commonly than in Ireland,—when they are rented at all. But nobody in America complains of this, because we have no such fierce competition for land. The man who cannot get a farm at a price to suit him, turns his hand to something else. As a consequence, land in America never rents at anything like the same percentage of the annual crop that it does in Ireland.

The Irish landlord says, "Shall I not be free to do what I will with my own, and to rent it at the highest price I can get in the open market? I ought to be as free to contract as to my land, as Mr. BRIGHT is to make contracts for the purchase of raw cotton and the sale of cotton goods." And the English Ministry say, "No. Free contracts imply free contractors; and, in the absence of alternative occupations, the Irish tenant is not free. He must take the land on your terms or starve." And the landlord might justly retort, "Whose fault is it that there are no other occupations open to him besides farming? Not mine, surely. And instead of passing laws which interfere with the rights of private property, would it not be better to devise some law which might help to create on Irish soil those alternative occupations whose absence makes free contract impossible and agriculture unprofitable?"

English political theorists, following Sir H. S. MAINE, say that the great economic transition which is now going forward is from *status* to *contract*. But the Irish Land Law proposes a retrograde movement from contract to status. It proposes to revive and recognize all those *imperfect rights* to landed property which the rest of the world has been trying to get rid of. This very Parliament is passing a bill to abolish such imperfect rights by the compulsory enfranchisement of copyright tenures throughout England. The objections to copyhold tenures are much the same as those which will lie against the new arrangements which Mr. GLADSTONE proposes for Ireland. They divide the real ownership between several persons, instead of vesting it in one. They leave room for complicated arrangements, which hardly a lawyer can disentangle. They leave the rights of the nominal owner uncertain. From all such tenures England prays to be delivered at the very time when her statesmen are enacting them for Ireland as the newest device for the salvation of society. What is poison for one country is meat for the other.

We regard the theoretical principles which underlie this bill as dangerous in the extreme. For thirty years past the Continental Socialists have been appealing to RICARDO and the other English economists as giving a scientific sanction to their attacks on landed property. Those economists deny that property in land rests on just the same footing as any other, and that land derives its value from labor expended on it. They ascribe its origin to a monopoly secured by the first settlers and transmitted to their descendants. They do not always draw the inference which the Socialists draw,—that the ownership of land is a public trust, from which the landlord may be dismissed like any other official. But this new bill goes some way to meet these theorists. It gives public sanction to the theories of those who say that land, at least, is not and cannot be private property in any absolute sense, but is always open to the interference and regulation of the State.

Worst of all, this regulation of land-tenure will not make Ireland a contented and prosperous country. It will raise great hopes only to disappoint them, and thus lead to new agitations and more unreasonable demands. The Irishmen who have fled from the island to find in other lands the competence and wealth denied them at home, are far from being of the tenant class only. Plenty of them were freeholders at home,—thrifty and energetic people often,—who found that Irish agriculture under any conditions which involved the separation of the farmer from the manufacturer, was an intolerable existence. Scores of such are known to the present writer. They have done well in new countries, and especially in those countries where the national policy fostered manufactures.

The best that even the BRIGHT Clauses could do for Ireland would be to raise the tenant class, after thirty-five years of transition, to the level of the freeholder class. It would give them a motive for hard work, and would show the world that they are capable of it. But it would leave their country poor through its industrial dependence, and the pressure for land still unrelieved.

GUSTAVE DE BEAUMONT, Councillor BUTT, Judge BYLES and HENRY C. CAREY have all agreed in pointing to the want of Irish manufactures as the tap-root of Irish miseries. It is the certainty that England will do nothing to correct this want, that makes the condition of Ireland under English rule so hopeless. They will stretch every other point, in spite of their economical prejudices. They will deny the Irish landlord's right to do as he will with what is his own. They will go to the verge of sanctioning Socialistic theories of property. But the last and supreme sanctity of Free Trade they will not sacrifice, even to make Ireland a contented country. This they will not grant; and less than this will prove useless. The refusal of this is what makes the separation of Ireland from the British Empire a question only of time,—and of opportunity.

PUBLIC OPINION.

THE CAREER OF LORD BEACONSFIELD.

IN reviewing the career of Lord Beaconsfield, the newspapers are making use of an extraordinary number of superlatives. It is described as "wonderful;" again, as "unprecedented," and even such a conservative journal as the Boston *Transcript* speaks of the life and work of the dead Earl as constituting "the marvel of the century." "In each of the several rôles of author, orator and statesman," says the Indianapolis *Journal*, "he achieved a separate fame, and if he had not excelled in these, he would still have been celebrated as a gentleman of fashion, a ruler of society and a born courtier." The New York *Tribune* considers his career as full of triumph, adding: "The fashion has been to speak disparagingly of Lord Beaconsfield as an imaginative Premier. So he was, in the sense that he gave his fancy full play in affairs of State requiring soberness and steadiness of judgment, but he was none the less one of the most sagacious statesmen of the time. As a party leader, whether in opposition or majority, he had consummate tact and unrivalled judgment."

"To analyze his nature," says the Philadelphia *Press*, "would be to fathom the mysteries of the deep; he is inscrutable." Nevertheless, almost every leading paper in the country has attempted such an analysis, and there seems to be considerable agreement as to his larger elements of character. His strength is generally admitted to have been intellectual—to have been identical with his sheer force of will—and his weakness is believed to have been one of the moral side,—lack of conviction. The New York *Herald* says: "We know of no instance in modern history where a man can be said by force of intellectual power to have overcome every obstacle to advancement so completely as Lord Beaconsfield. He had nothing in common with the English people, and therefore his achievement of high position was the more difficult." As the Albany *Journal* reflects upon the late statesman's career, it sees "how the late German philosophers, Schopenhauer and Hartman, become intelligible. These writers say that the world does not exist, except as it is created by the power of the will. That force is real. Nothing could withstand Disraeli's giant purpose, and so to-day, when he dies, the world is audience." In like manner, the Hartford *Times* says: "It was not necessary that he should have been the greatest of British statesmen to make his career so remarkable; it was that he should have succeeded in hewing out his own path to eminence, through the obdurate granite of English social and political rule and custom, solely by the force and persistence of his individual will. Such a life-work is a far different thing in England from the achievements of corresponding success in this country." Premising that "the wonderful success of Disraeli has been accomplished by pluck, ability and persistency working under limitations," the Wilmington (Del.,) *Every Evening* concludes that "it would be folly for those who condemn his career to question the marvellous ability of the man, however much they may deplore the uses to which he put the power thus gained."

"What was lacking in Lord Beaconsfield," says the New York *Tribune*, "was sincerity; he had no immutable principles in politics or morals." The Troy (N. Y.,) *Times*, referring to the same defect, adds: "His intellect was at once subtle and brilliant, and he succeeded in exciting the wonder of the world, even if he did not always command the world's respect or esteem. He was fertile in temporary expedients and makeshifts, but he wanted moral strength. He loved himself, not his fellow-men." The Providence *Journal* is not so severe in its consideration of the ex-Premier's weakness. The *Journal* says: "His moral character will be estimated according as one gives supremacy to the practical or the ideal. There is no reason to doubt that he prospered the welfare of Great Britain; if he considered himself necessary to that welfare, his methods of attaining and maintaining it are to be judged not only by what he did or omitted, but by his intent as to the use of power."

Many journals hold up Mr. Gladstone as the true antithesis of Lord Beaconsfield. One paper places the latter's "showy methods" in contrast with Mr. Gladstone's "sturdy plainness." The Brooklyn *Eagle* says: "For years, these two men of opposite methods and convictions have battled before the world. It has been a struggle of giants; and history will mark the Victorian epoch as having produced

two of the greatest of English statesmen in conflict that her soil has yielded. Lord Beaconsfield's Toryism was ingrained,—an unmistakable element of the man's nature. His dream was empire, and he sought to reproduce it in fact by all the methods of aggression that the traditions of the party sanctioned." While the *Eagle* thinks that "the mark he has made upon the history of the world cannot be effaced," the Milwaukee (Wis.,) *Sentinel* is of the opinion that "his fame will fade, as the years go by, while that of Mr. Gladstone will increase." Joining the *Sentinel*, the Buffalo *Express* tersely concludes: "Beaconsfield was the Queen's minister, and Mr. Gladstone the people's minister, and as such they will be remembered."

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

The International Monetary Conference, which began in Paris last Tuesday, is furnishing a leading topic for press discussion. Most of the newspapers content themselves with statements of the problems to be solved, withholding comment entirely. A few present bold opinions. The New York *Times* thinks that the Conference will reach no practicable conclusions, and expresses regret that our Government should have sent representatives. "The United States would have been far wiser," says the *Times*, "had it recognized from the first that there was no real occasion for the Conference. While it is not flattering to the self-esteem of the American people that its Government has invited a conference on the subject which the greatest commercial and financial nation in the world bluntly says is not worth discussing, we have reason to be thankful that England has pursued this course." On the other hand, the Baltimore *American* decides that the Conference can do no harm, and may result in good. The *American* argues:—"The Conference is a representative body, in respect of intelligence, at least, if not of authority. The importance grows out of the fact that its deliberations are likely to throw valuable light upon two practical questions, the final decision of which will settle the 'Battle of the Standards.' If the question as to whether the ratio of values can be regulated by artificial statute, and international contract be settled in the negative, the whole matter will fall to the ground. If it should be affirmatively decided, the other question of the present practicability of resorting to bi-metallism will occur, and this last is a political question of great importance." The Boston *Advertiser* assures its readers that "no owner of silver, no owner of silver-mining shares, no dealer in bullion and no speculator, need be afraid or glad of the Conference. Its deliberations and resolutions will not affect the price of silver, unless there is reason to believe that the conclusions of the Conference, if they restore silver to its former rank, will be ratified by the responsible Governments as well as by the markets of the world." "The real issue of the hour," continues the *Advertiser*, "is whether England, Germany, and the United States, are willing to enhance the circulation of silver by law and otherwise. From what is known, it seems fairly clear that every country is willing to let the others experiment with silver. The drift is toward the gold standard, and no methods now known to Governments can restore the situation of the old times."

While the *Advertiser* is not disturbed by fears of a disastrous ending, the Cincinnati *Gazette* shows not only alarm, but indignation. "The Silver Congress," exclaims the *Gazette*, "is designed to make the United States an ass, to take on Europe's glut of depreciated silver, and to give her our gold! The fear is that we have asses enough in our statesmen and able editors to lead the nation into this folly." In answer, the *Ohio State Journal* holds that the *Gazette* is entirely mistaken; that the law governing the relative value of precious metals is the law of supply and demand, and that because of such a law the Conference will be barren of results. The *Journal* thinks that "the people of the United States are masters of the situation, if they see fit to assert their mastery. All we have to do is to recognize the patent fact of the change in the relative value of gold and silver, and then conform our coinage to the metallic standard of the world as near as practicable." The general opinion in regard to the solution of the problems before the Conference seems to be voiced by the Milwaukee *Republican*, when it says: "The refusal of the mono-metallic countries to take part in any other capacity than that of spectators, makes it improbable that any satisfactory conclusion upon any important point at issue will be reached."

BENJAMIN DISRAELI.

TURNER has been described as "a very subtle scene-painter." Whether the description will apply to Turner or not, nobody will dispute that the purport of it is true of Benjamin Disraeli. His theatricality was the most conspicuous trait in his long career. He was a very fertile and adroit stage-manager. It cannot be said of him that his sense of "situation" was very subtle, but it was undoubtedly very keen, and it was subtle enough for his purpose. If his audience did not insist upon the substitution of bullion for tinsel, why should he trouble himself to provide the costlier material? To call an artist a scene-painter, or a politician a stage-manager, so far as it is an imputation, imputes to the man, as an ultimate purpose, the purpose of impressing an audience. He has nothing that he wishes to say or to do beyond pleasing his audience. If he have another than the theatrical purpose, we can easily pardon him the use of theatrical methods. No English politician, for instance, was ever fonder of stage tricks, or more fertile in them, than Lord Chatham, and nobody would think of describing him as, first of all, a stage-manager, which is the most natural description of Benjamin Disraeli. The difference is that Lord Chatham used these appliances to promote the success of a national policy in which he believed—to Benjamin Disraeli national policies were also means to the end—the end being the personal success of Benjamin Disraeli. The result is that the whole career of the man seems unreal and illusory, and the unreality is quite as apparent in the books which he wrote to further his political career, as in the facts themselves of that career.

"Charlatan" is the commonest epithet used to characterize Disraeli, but the quality we have been insisting upon is not necessarily charlatanism. It implies some concealment of a man's aims and methods; and Disraeli never stooped to conceal either. A certain cynical candor marked all his procedures,—political, literary and social. His tawdry novels were in the nature of "colored posters," intended to attract attention to his entertainment, or else in the nature of explanations how his effects were produced. Certainly, nobody will assert that any deception was used, or deny that the show has come up to the bills. When one proclaims that he is a humbug, he disavows those who might otherwise be inclined to call him a humbug, or at least takes away the sting of the appellation. Disraeli was as frank in his way as Mr. Barnum in his autobiographies has shown himself to be in his. O'Connell's famous epithet of the "lineal descendant of the impenitent thief," is merely abusive—Carlyle's, of the "clever conscious juggler" is descriptive, and there is no reason to suppose that Disraeli would have resented it.

To twit such a man with inconsistency, is to do an absurd thing. Some indiscreet admirers of Benjamin Disraeli have endeavored to show that his record, in fact, exhibits fewer inconsistencies than that of his life-long rival. The claim is probably well-founded, but it does not in the least matter whether it is or not, for Mr. Gladstone has really changed his opinions, and Benjamin Disraeli has, for practical purposes, never had any political opinions to change. His books and his speeches do, indeed, reveal the outlines of something which may be called a national polity; but this is as irrelevant to the author's notion of "practical politics" as his panegyrics upon the Hebrew race. His political theories were to him good enough material for after-dinner conversation, or for the decoration of a bric-a-brac romance, or even of a speech in the House of Commons; but his interest in them was entirely speculative. As for introducing them into Parliament and striving to get them embodied in laws, or in any other way jeopardizing his career on account of them, such a notion, it is safe to say, never entered his mind. His political speculations were his ruin; his practical politics were adjusted to his view of the political market. His consistency in pursuit of his object was complete; and, whether the inconsistencies of his "record" are many or few, this consistency is not affected. To pursue a policy after it had ceased to be popular, would have seemed to him as senseless and irrelevant a procedure as to the stage-manager, to whom we have likened him, would be a persistence in the presentation of a play after it had plainly ceased to draw, for the no better reason than that, in his individual opinion, it was a good play. Artemus Ward's partner in theatrical management plumed himself upon having a "well-balanced mind," because he knew "what the public wanted." This perception Benjamin Disraeli very eminently had. Of course, ethical questions will now and then arise, as they did when this same partner of Ward's, after playing the great moral drama of "The Fallen Saved" to empty benches, proposed to "give 'em some immoral dramy." But, then, a policy which commends itself to a majority of the voters of Great Britain, is pretty sure to be a policy for which there is a great deal to be said, and the man who undertakes to say it can, at least, find much to say for himself.

A motto from Artemus Ward was prefixed to a satirical life of Disraeli, published at the height of the "Jingo" excitement. "What are your political prinserpuls, Mr. Ward?" "I hain't got none." "No prinserpuls?" "Not a prinserpul; I'm in the show biznis." Disraeli would, no doubt, have admitted this to be a palpable hit; but he might have maintained, with some plausibility, that his competitors and colleagues were in the show business also, and that the

difference between them was that he did not pretend that his creation was anything but what it was. His political morality, he would have insisted, is the political morality of parliamentary government, which consists in giving people what they want. The old motto needs the change of a word to adopt it to the new conditions. Instead of "Salus populi," we are now to read "Voluntas populi suprema lex." Except by giving effect to the public wish, no man can become a political leader in a government of opinion; and Disraeli would have insisted that it made no difference whether a politician divined the public wish by sympathy, like Mr. Gladstone, or by calculation, like himself. Certainly, the result upon the nation is the same in either case; but it does not follow that our judgment of the man will not be affected by considering whether he views the movement in which he is engaged from the inside or from the outside.

It is to be said, however, that Disraeli never pretended to be more than an outsider in the public life of England. His aim was simple, and he never concealed it. In fact, while he was still a stripling and a dandy, he wrote books to proclaim it. The famous saying of Goethe has been applied to him at every step in the latter part of his extraordinary career: "What a man desires in his youth, that he shall have to fulness in his old age." Disraeli's ambition was to lead the politics of Great Britain and to associate with the aristocracy of Great Britain. This was an arduous undertaking for an obscure Hebrew in Great Britain fifty years ago; but Disraeli's social ambition and his political ambition then, at least, assisted each other. An ambitious young adventurer who should now attempt Disraeli's rôle, would have to divide it, and choose between his aspirations. The social predominance of the aristocracy has outlasted its political predominance, and is not yet visibly weakened, although the political influence of the aristocracy is lessening year by year. But the leadership of the Conservative party was the goal of both of Disraeli's ambitions, and he fulfilled them both when he became Prime Minister of England. But there was no humbug in his attitude toward either British politics or British society. He never pretended to regard office as a means to the end of enforcing the policy in which he believed. To him it was, and was avowed to be, an end; and there is, upon the whole, less of hypocrisy, though much more of cynicism, in his demeanor towards the public questions of his times, than in that of many men who have attained higher reputations for public virtue. Disraeli's attack upon Peel for stealing the clothes of the Whigs while the Whigs were bathing, had point as an attack upon Peel; but when Disraeli himself, twenty years later, repeated the same tactics, and brought the Tory squires up to the support of a more liberal extension of the suffrage than any Liberal Minister had ventured to urge, everybody felt that his attack upon Peel could not be effectively retorted upon himself. He was simply in the "show biznis."

It has been, to a great degree, Disraeli's own doing that he has been regarded, all his life long, as a foreigner, even in the country of which he became Prime Minister, and by the natives who made him Prime Minister. The English people would have forgotten, if he would have permitted them to forget, that he was a Jew. He "broke his birth's invidious bar;" but he never identified himself as an Englishman. His stage effects, from his youthful novels down to his transportation of Sepoys from India to the Mediterranean, were all of an Oriental kind. Mr. Beresford-Hope's sneer at the "Asian mystery" of his proceedings, was apt and telling, though it was so effectively countered by Disraeli's allusion to the "Batavian grace" of his assailant's oratory. He made himself necessary to a great party, and they accepted him; but he was never one of them. That such a man, cherishing his spiritual alienism, so to speak, and refusing to be naturalized, should have attained such a success, is proof, not only of his own prowess, but of the ungrudging English recognition of dexterity and force, whoever displays those qualities.

LITERATURE.

THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.

THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.—To the already large *corpus* of recent literature on the Irish Land Question, four interesting contributions have been made by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.,—"The Irish Land Laws," by Mr. Alexander G. Richey, Q. C.; "Disturbed Ireland," by Mr. Bernard H. Becker, of the London *Daily News*; "New Views of Ireland," by Mr. Charles Russell, M. P.; and "A Life's Work in Ireland," by Mr. W. Bence Jones. They are all books of a different sort, dealing respectively with the law from a lawyer's point of view; with the people, their condition and the existing agitation, from that of a special correspondent, and with these same subjects from the point of view of an energetic English landlord. The last is probably the most valuable, as it is the most interesting of the four volumes. It is needless to say that Mr. Bence Jones will not have the sympathy of readers who hold with the Land League, or of radical reformers and political economists; but no just-minded reader will refuse to think him a well-meaning, honest business man, with a strong prejudice in favor of being allowed to do what he likes with his own, and not without a good deal of public spirit and practical benevolence.

The estate on which Mr. Bence Jones has spent the last forty years had been thoroughly neglected. His grandfather never saw it; his father visited it once, for

half an hour; but the defalcation of an agent in 1838 induced him to look after it personally. He was an Oxford man and a lawyer, and had gained some knowledge of farming during his residence in Suffolk. The Irish property to which he devoted himself was situated in the vicinity of Cork and consisted of some 4,000 acres, on which the holdings averaged twenty-five acres. On the whole, it was land of fair quality, but it was very irregularly treated. It was pared and burned for potatoes, with such manure as there was—earth mixed with scanty dung and calcareous sea-sand—applied to the same crop. Potatoes were followed by wheat, and this again by oats for one to two years, when the ground was left, without grass or clover seed being sown, to rest till some sort of skin was formed, enough to burn again. Very little stock was kept or could be kept; twenty bushels of wheat to the acre were considered a capital crop; green crops were almost unknown; draining was hardly thought of; rents were very irregularly paid, and the tenants were hardly better than paupers. The district was but rudely civilized; the ploughs were wood, tipped with iron; indeed, it was barely a decade since the cart-wheels were discs of solid wood, and the spectacle of a vehicle with spoked wheels would bring the farmers running down from the fields to the roadside to gaze on the wonder.

Mr. Jones began by wiping off all arrears of rent, with trifling exceptions, and insisted vigorously on the payment of rent half-yearly within about three months after it fell due. Two or three tenants, believed to be incorrigible, were ejected as a warning to the others, and their farms were divided among the best of their neighbors. The consolidation of holdings, often broken up into five or six distant patches, was proceeded with as rapidly as possible, and roads and lanes were improved; the growth of small quantities of clover and roots was made compulsory, and prizes of improved ploughs were given for good crops, a small model farm being established for the instruction of the tenants. Though it was up-hill work for some time, at the end of five years the stock on the estate was doubled, and the rent was regularly paid, while not more than six or eight tenants had been turned out; in fact, so well had the experiment succeeded, that the failure of 1845 was not felt, nor did any distress attend the failure of 1846. But the famine and emigration of 1847 compelled the conclusion that a change of system must be resorted to.

Of that memorable year, Mr. Bence Jones remarks acutely that that there was not merely a famine, but a great social upset, where, after it was over, quite new ways had to be entered on, which very few knew anything about, and in which no one could feel any confidence, whether he would succeed or fail. When the potato failed, the truck system was doomed, money wages becoming indispensable,—money wages which the farmers could not pay, and without which the laborers could not live. The farmer lost his labor and manured field, and the laborer's cottage became roofless. Farming became more of a business, needing capital, and dairy and stock-farming increased, as needing less of such outlay than tillage; this again causing less employment for the laborer, who was at the same time attracted to America by the higher money wages. "No one, either landlord or tenant, felt any confidence in the future; or, in fact, could see what was the best course to follow. Throughout the country numbers of tenants were giving up their farms and going away. Often all the tenants of a plough-land would run off by night, to a distance, with stock and crops, leaving the landlord to recover the possession of the land as he could by ejectment, perhaps twelve months afterwards, and with a heavy arrear of rates upon it. It was a common saying among the tenants, that 'the landlords and laborers would soon have all the land to themselves.' It was a terribly anxious time. No one could tell from half year to half year what course things would take, and that he might not have every acre he owned thrown on his hands. To lay out capital at such a time, on improvements and doubtful farming, was felt to be nothing less than spending what might be wanted before long for actual subsistence." It was impossible to relet the abandoned farms at the old rent, and to give them for less would have compelled making a reduction to the other tenants; so Mr. Bence Jones took such farms in hand himself, tried sheep largely, with turnips and grass, and promoted dairy farming. The land formerly rented for about seventeen shillings an acre; for some years the best that could be made, owing to the large outlay for improvements, was seven or eight shillings for rent and interest; but in 1851 it rose to 12; in 1853 to 27; in 1857 to 31; in 1878 to 34; and in 1881 to 40. The gross produce yielded by the land was fully four times what it had been in the hands of small occupiers. It should be added that very few new machines were used, no fancy stock was kept, and there was nothing done that any common farmer of fair means could not carry out on the scale fitting his own farm.

With regard to the tenants, whatever rents they had promised were punctually enforced, unless for very definite causes; and any tenant who could not pay was considered unfit to remain on the land. No one paying his rent, on the other hand, was to have it raised, or to be dispossessed during his life-time, unless for gross misconduct. Where a tenant died or gave up, his successor had to make a new bargain, and in this way a steady rise in the rental went on. No sale of his interest by a tenant to his successor was ever allowed. The rent had to be paid, and constant, steady exertion and self-reliance were thus made almost compulsory, and Mr. Bence Jones recorded in 1865 that no industrious tenant had failed, the arrears of rent amounted to but £3, and the tenants had thriven wonderfully, and were thriving more and more every year. His rents were about 33 per cent. higher than those of the adjacent landlords, yet his tenants were better off. And last year he could write that he was on the best of terms with all his tenants,—who in December "Boycotted" him at the order of the Land League. There was not a shilling of rent then in arrears, and it is declared that there was not a tenant who was unable to pay. The result is that Mr. Bence Jones has resolved to shut up his house and place, put all the land into grass, and give no more employment.

On the Irish Land Question generally, Mr. Bence Jones is very outspoken. That the country is poor, is admitted. There is not enough capital to develop its resources,

and the capital of the occupying tenants is not enough for farming their land moderately well, in their own backward style. What permanent improvements have been made, have been made by the owners of the land, and the improvements in farming have been almost wholly the effect of the example of the land-owners' Scotch stewards. The tribal virtues and vices are strongly developed in the national character. The men are singularly faithful in many relations of life and to comrades, even in ill-doing, and readily combine for all sorts of ends; but there is a disheartening atmosphere of universal untruthfulness, and no such thing as a healthy public opinion. The country, backward and undeveloped, is simply in a state of childhood, and it is of supreme importance that there should be the strictest application of sound rules of right and wrong. There is need of law,—not so much of severity as of certainty of punishment. He laments over the artificial character of Irish agitations,—not caused by real present grievances, but gotten up upon the remains of the ill-will of former days. "And the great need of the country is more industry. They are not an industrious people. Hard work, however gainful, is disliked. They will work hard by fits and starts; but the steady backbone is not there. . . . The man who clings to a wretched bit of land in Ireland, that is unable to support him and his, is just a pauper, and must be so forever if he stays. Instead of being a sort which the State should strive to root in the soil, the State (if it do anything,) should put paupers like these somewhere where they can earn a better living, and the children can grow up in comfort and decency, different from the state of their parents. Such paupers are useful to agitators, and to no one else. They form, in fact, the agitators' stock in trade, and the agitators accordingly do their best to protect them."

In his treatise on the Irish Land Laws, Mr. Richey does not undertake to discuss the Land Question either from an economic or political point of view; nor does he suggest any specific alteration in the existing laws. He merely gives, in an untechnical and practical form, what information he may have upon the legal theory of the hiring of land and the rules relative thereto, suggesting, at the same time, certain questions which must be seriously considered by those who would frame a new landlord and tenant code for Ireland. Perhaps, to American readers, the most interesting chapter is that devoted to popular errors as to Irish law. It is pointed out that Mr. Cliffe Leslie was singularly unfortunate when, in his "Land Systems," he pointed out that the absence of trees in Ireland was due to the law. In point of fact, neither under the Roman, French or English law, would a tenant who planted trees upon his farm acquire the property in them; but under the Irish law, a tenant who plants trees during his lease can acquire a property in them. So, also, Dr. Hancock, in his "Impediments to the Prosperity of Ireland," points out how an enterprising capitalist was unable to secure a site for a flax mill, despite the sympathy of the landlord, because the latter was bound by settlement to let for the best rent he could get and not for more than thirty-one years, a lease too short to secure the flax-spinner in laying out his capital. There happens to be an act which gives the power to grant leases for building for very lengthy terms, and applications for leasing powers under it for the very purpose of erecting linen manufactories are of very frequent occurrence. So, too, when Mr. Cliffe Leslie speaks of the law of waste,—"A legislature of landlords, devising a code of laws for Ireland, has thought only of the landlord, and the ground has been cursed for his sake!"—he follows Furlong, who refers to seventeen cases, every one of which is English! And the case is cited of Archdeacon O'Connell, who, in the course of an address to dissuade his parishioners from establishing a branch of the Land League, pointed out that, if any one had suffered from the unjust Land Laws, he had, adducing an instance of oppression and confiscation which was simply impossible under the Acts of 1860 and 1870.

The two volumes of special correspondence are like most collections of letters by good journalists—readable and graphic, if not particularly profound. They who desire a good picture of the surface of things in Ireland during the past twelvemonth cannot do better than read Mr. Becker's book, which, it may be said, is illustrated with a very admirable map. From the beginning, where we are introduced to Captain Boycott in a leather shooting-jacket, herding sheep with the assistance of a bull terrier and two members of the Irish constabulary with loaded carbines, down to the conclusion, which tells of a visit to Colonel O'Callaghan's residence at Maryfort, Clare, where the lady of the house had to carry the mail-bag to and from the post-office, armed with rifle and revolver. There is not a dull page in the book, which is further enlivened with some admirable sketches of Irish character. At Christmas-time last year, it is worth noting, one hundred and twenty persons in Ireland were receiving personal protection from the police, while at least eight hundred others received that modified protection known as "looking after" them. From the regular force, therefore, some one thousand, three hundred men were detached on special service of the most harassing and vexatious kind, as, wherever the protected person chose to go, at whatever hour, and in whatever weather, his escort was bound to accompany him. And it is noted that the constables, thus perpetually harassed and exposed, were quite superior to the consolation of a tip—not only refusing money for services rendered, but refusing it with roughness.

The volume by Mr. Charles Russell, the well-known lawyer and Liberal member of Parliament, is of a more ambitious sort, but quite as interesting, though in his brief sojourn in Ireland Mr. Charles Russell did not always see all that was to be seen, and at times failed to penetrate satisfactorily into the heart of things. The tenth chapter, in which the author deals with his proposed remedial schemes, is probably the most valuable in the book. He is equally opposed to a fresh confiscation and the giving of rights of property to any class without a just price being paid for them, and considers it of prime importance in any judicious land-reform scheme to set advantages before the tenants to be earned by thrift, self-denial and exertion. No patching-up, extension or modification of the "Ulster custom," Mr. Russell is convinced, will avail, nor any system which contemplates a future periodical re-valuation of rents. He would turn the occupiers of agricultural holdings in Ireland into "occupying proprietors"—a term preferred to "peasant proprietors"—securing them, in the meanwhile, in the possession of

their holdings, at rents justly ascertained and fixed now, once and forever, recognizing at the same time the utility of having some authority to which to appeal as to rents in cases outside of the scheme. Perfect security, prompting the tenant to unstinted exertion, would enable him, even in the case of very small and poor holdings, to take much more out of the land than he does at present, and thus better his condition; it could not make it worse. But, after all, there would remain many cases which no scheme of finally fixing a fair rent, or of converting the tenant into a proprietor, would fully meet, and in reference to which the remedy must be either migration or emigration. Mr. Russell suggested, and it is worth while to compare his suggestions with Mr. Gladstone's plan just announced by cable—a strong and permanent Land Commission, with functions of a judicial, an executive and a ministerial character; the abolition, so far as is practicable, of every system of settlement or entail which can interfere with dealing with land absolutely at any given moment, and the right for every tenant, say, ten years in occupation, to demand a lease forever of his holding, at a rent to be fixed once and forever, by agreement or by the Commission, subject to the landlord's right to show special circumstances equitably disentitling the tenant. Any arrears of rent beyond two years should rank with ordinary debts. The tenant, whose rent was permanently fixed, should be allowed to buy up, say, at twenty-five years' purchase, his rent, or any part of it. The Land Commission should have the power to insist upon the sale of corporate estates, and of all estates mortgaged beyond seventy-five per cent. of their value, and to buy and deal with such estates, all the waste lands in the country, and any properties voluntarily offered for sale, purchases to be paid for by bonds, with Government security and bearing interest, and lands sold in fee-simple in consideration of cash payments and annual instalments extending over a period, say, of fifty years. Some such plan as this, Mr. Russell believes, would supply to Ireland what she has never had, that stable element of a numerous class which, secured in their holdings, and thus having a stake in the country, would be enlisted on the side of order.

But, if some Parnell of the next generation should head a crusade against paying the instalments to the Land Commission —?

A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, BY JOSEPH E. WORCESTER, LL.D. (With Supplement, containing over 12,500 new words and entries, and a Vocabulary of synonyms of words in general use.)—Worcester's Dictionary of the English language, of which we now have a new edition with a supplement, appeared in 1860. It was a thoroughly good piece of work of its kind. Dr. Worcester was not a profound linguistic scholar, but he was a most laborious and intelligent maker of good books, and he had spent a large part of his life in work on English Dictionaries. He lived at Cambridge, within ear-shot of Harvard University and Faneuil Hall, in the palmy days of rhetoric and oratory, under the reign of Professor Channing and Edward Everett. He knew the usages of our literary men, and could represent them faithfully, and adapt himself to them with consummate skill. His Dictionary was, accordingly, a great success. The literary magnates,—Irving, Bryant, Holmes, Felton,—gave it a hearty welcome. Its excellencies and its shortcomings alike commended it to their favor. Good taste was its strong point. It took care not to get out of a gentleman's depth. It was cautious about venturing too far into the lore of the etymologists, or being over-subtle in the distinctions of its definitions. It was innocent of Bopp and Grimm, but often enlivened by the *bon mots* of Trench and Richardson. For popular success, its strong points were pronunciation and spelling. Here, at last, anybody could learn exactly how Mr. Everett pronounced, and how the Harvard men were directed to spell. And, when you could tell, besides, the current niceties in the use of words, what more could be asked in a Dictionary? What was not in Worcester was not worth knowing. Twenty years have passed, as full of change as any that the English-speaking world has known. The publishers have thought it necessary to add an Appendix to the Dictionary. The original pages still remain, and it is interesting to see how well they hold their ground. The Appendix, however, is the main interest. The new words in it are a record of the progress of the race. 12,500 new objects of thought, it seems, have received or revived their names, and become sufficiently known to be thought worthy of a place in this collection.

The selection of words seems to be made in a catholic spirit; the natural sciences and useful arts give the largest number, but other branches of science and art have their record. The history of Darwinism may be found in numerous entries: *survival of the fittest*, *natural selection*, *evolution*, *genesis* of all sorts, *pan-genesis*, *partheno-*, *para-*, *hetero-*, &c., and a column of words in *paleo-*. The *telephone* and *spectroscope* are here, of course, and so is *cupidor*. The spirit-rappers have their record, and the brokers with their *short* and *long*. So have the *base-ball* players, and their *daisy-cutters*. *Boom* and *boss* and *bric-a-brac* are here, and *adullamites* and *jingoies*, each in its own place. A large number of persons take their places among the immortals, their names having been embodied in common words, such as *Darwinism*, *Bessemer*, *Fraunhofer line*, *Jeffersonia*; some are branded forever, as in *gerrymander*, *Johnsonese*. Philology is not neglected. Here are the words of the Sanskrit scholars, *Veda*, *Brahmanas*, *Sutras*, *Upanishads*, and the like. So, also, the old Norse *Freya*, *Valhalla*, *Ygdrasil*, *Berserk*, &c. *Aryan* and *Turanian* are here.

No department of study has made greater advances than the study of old English. In the days of Channing and Everett, when they spent their days and nights in the study of Addison, nothing was known of the early English and Anglo-Saxon, or of the researches of Grimm and his fellows into the history of the Germanic languages and their literatures. But Professor Child now fills the chair of Channing, and hears the students of Harvard read early English from German text-books, and publishes learned researches into the language of Chaucer, and collections of old ballads. Numbers of old words long forgotten, strike the fancy of the students of Chaucer, and have again become familiar. Many of them appear in the Supplement. A large number of

the good old Anglo-Saxon words have been made over by ignorant Latinists and Greeks, who imagined them to be corruptions of Latin or Greek words, and transformed them accordingly. It is getting to be *recherché*, good form, Worcesterish, to write the correct old forms. Thus *iland* is given in its proper place, and described as the earlier and correct spelling of *island*; and under *island* we find the same statement repeated, with the information that the *s* is ignorantly inserted through confusing it with *isle*, a French word from Latin *insula*. *Rime* is given in its proper place as the correct spelling of *rhyme*, and it is explained that *rhyme* is a modern blunder started by the notion that it is a Greek word like *rhythm*. *Ake* also is restored and *ache* turned over to the Greeklings. So *sithe*, which has been disguised as *scythe*, our Worcester thinks, from an impression that it was from Latin *scido*. Milton's *sovran* is down as the true spelling of *sovereign*, an outgrowth of the idle fancy that the word was compounded with *reign*. We are informed that *coud* is the older and better form of *could*. The *I* is an "excrescence" due to the influence of *would* and *should*. The *Tartars* also recover here from the French king's pun by which they were made fiends of *Tartarus*; and so *glamour*, and *whole*, and *shame-faced*, and other like etymological blunders are branded as they deserve. Until the last decade, our technical terms in grammar, as well as the other sciences, have been taken from Latin and Greek, and it is a very high compliment to the eminence of modern German scholarship that we are beginning to borrow from German. The youth of Boston, it is said, now mingle discourse of the *ablaut* and *umlaut* with that of *protoplasm* and *bathybius*, and sure enough they are all here in Worcester.

The new edition still has the fair, open print, white paper, and tasteful solid binding, by which Worcester has been known so long, and which are so suited to its contents. It will doubtless hold its place as an authority among the cultured. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. 1881. 1990 pp.)

BERKELEY.—Professor A. Campbell Fraser's study of Berkeley forms the third published volume in the series known as "Blackwood's Philosophical Classics," and it is the freshest and most fascinating of the three; partly because Berkeley himself is by far the most romantic and brilliant of the philosophers, and partly on account of the large amount of hitherto unused material at the disposition of the author of the volume. Professor Fraser handles his subject in a thoroughly masterful and original way, and, as all students of philosophy will see at a glance, has produced a work in which, for the first time, the whole system of Berkeley is presented in its organic entirety. As thinkers well know, the weak point in Berkeley's system was his point blank denial of the existence of an occult substratum or *ding an sich*. What he did triumphantly demonstrate, was the impossibility of *proving* the existence of a material substance behind phenomena; but when he took a step further and denied the existence of any such substance, he simply asserted that which he could not prove, as Mr. John Fiske well says in his "Outlines of Comic Philosophy." Just here, we may remark that it is another curious instance of the apparent impossibility of one man being able to do justice to both the *a priori* and the *a posteriori* schools, that Professor Fraser has totally misapprehended the central position of the Spencerian Agnostics; for he says, on page 226, that "the Agnostic philosophy alleges that, outside the co-existing and successive phenomena of sense, there is nothing to be cemented—that all assertions or denials about supposed realities beyond the range of natural science are illusions." Now, any one who has read the "First Principles" of Spencer, or the works of Comte, knows that this statement is entirely untrue. As Mr. John Fiske has more than once had occasion to show, both Spencer and Comte emphatically assert the existence of the reality behind phenomena. Professor Fraser has performed the curious feat of getting the Spencerians into Berkeley's pen and Berkeley into that of the Spencerians; for, as we shall show, the great endeavor of Professor Fraser is to give flesh and blood and materiality to that spirit of Berkeley which is really the Unknown Reality of the Spencerians. It is probable that we must attribute to J. S. Mill the general misunderstanding in England of the true position of the Agnostics.

Turning to the most attractive part of the volume,—the personal details,—one naturally begins with a word about the excellent portrait prefixed to the work, and now, for the first time, presented to the world. It is copied from an old oil painting in the possession of the widow of the late Mr. Robert Berkeley, Q. C., Dublin. It was painted in Rome, and represents Berkeley at a much earlier age than those hitherto published. Readers and admirers of Berkeley knew well his gentle character; but we venture to say that this youthful face will be a most pleasing surprise to everybody. We can recall but three other portraits which show such Raphaelesque sweetness and gentleness,—*i. e.*, those of the youths Milton and Emerson, and that of Walter Savage Landor, taken before he had become harsh and crabbed by age. The scroll above the portrait of Berkeley bears the appropriate legend "*Mens agitat molem*." Little is known of Berkeley's parents. He was born in Kilkenny County, Ireland, and studied for thirteen years at Dublin University. It was here that he conceived his great philosophical idea of the immateriality of the world. When he first came up to Dublin, he had that fresh and charming simplicity which ever characterized him. He was a mystery to the undergraduates, who could not decide whether he was the greatest genius or the greatest dunce in college. Conterini, one of his college friends, tells a story of his eccentric humor. They had gone to see an execution, and on their return Berkeley proposed to try the experiment of coming as near to dying as possible, in order to see what the sensation would be. So, he was hung up to the ceiling, lost consciousness, failed to give the signal that had been agreed upon, and came very near dying in earnest. His first words on recovery were: "Bless my heart, Conterini, you have rumpled my band!" Within the last few years a great deal of new material has been discovered for forming a true estimate of Berkeley as a man and as a philosopher. Professor Fraser groups this material as follows:—(1.) The Berkeley papers, in possession of the late Archdeacon

Rose. These include (a) Berkeley's college "Commonplace Book,"—"among the most precious records in existence of the crude, solitary struggles of philosophical genius;" (b) four small manuscript volumes, containing a journal of his travels in Italy; (c) miscellaneous correspondence. (2.) About eighty letters from Berkeley to Sir John Percival, afterwards Earl of Egmont, from 1709 to 1730, not hitherto published. (3) Modern criticisms of Berkeley. The Berkeley papers and letters give us many interesting personal anecdotes not before known. Berkeley took orders at Dublin, and was college tutor there for a while. In 1713 he first came to London. His fame had preceded him, and he was welcomed by the wits and scholars, by the Queen and nobles. In 1716 he made a journey to Italy. Prof. Fraser finds that the tragical story about Berkeley innocently causing the death of Malebranche, whom he was thought to have visited during his foreign tour, is an apocryphal one. The story has been that Berkeley found Malebranche ill with an inflammation of the lungs. The conversation turned on the existence of matter. Malebranche, who was cooking a medicine in a small pipkin, became so violently excited that his disorder was increased and in a few days carried him off. "But," says Prof. Fraser, "I find from the Percival correspondence that Berkeley was in England throughout 1715, the year in which Malebranche died. The only evidence that he ever saw the eloquent French idealist is an allusion to the promised introduction through the Abbé D'Aubigné, two years before."

Of the visionary Bermuda scheme, and of the residence at Rhode Island with his newly-married wife, we need not speak. The Percival letters give an interesting glimpse of the character of Berkeley's wife, and we will conclude by giving a very curious quotation which relates to her. It is from a letter written to Lord Percival as he was about setting out for America. "To-morrow we sail down the river (the Thames). Mr. James and Mr. Dalton go with me; so doth my wife, a daughter of the late Chief Justice Forster, whom I married since I saw your lordship. I chose her for her qualities of mind, and her unaffected inclination to books. She goes with great thankfulness to live a plain farmer's life and wear stuff of her own spinning. I have presented her with a spinning-wheel. Her fortune was £2,000 originally, but travelling and exchange have reduced it to less than £1,500 English money. I have placed that and about £600 of my own in South Sea annuities." This young wife was disposed to mysticism and quietism, it is said, and Fénelon and Mme. Guyon were her favorite characters. Berkeley was forty-four when he married. He died at Oxford in 1753, at the age of sixty-eight. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. Wm. Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh. 1881. Pp. 234.)

CHAMISSE'S FAUST.—In this short dramatic sketch (or *essay*, as the author modestly termed it), *Faust* is the only figure on the stage. The Good Spirit and the Evil Spirit that by turns contend with him, rather than with each other, for the mastery, are mere voices, typifying the inner struggle that agitates his mind. The scene opens with *Faust* in his dimly-lighted study. He regrets "the fleeting years of youth" and the season of lusty manhood that have forever gone, and rebelliously admits that for him the sun of life is setting! "Hast thou really lived?" he asks himself. "A stranger in this world, thou hast dreamed away the hours so grudgingly doled out to thee, while straining thy strength in the giant strife—thou fool!"

The following extracts will serve to show the character of the monologue, and at the same time furnish examples of Mr. Phillips's command of English versification:

"A spark burns low within my bosom's cell
Lit by a strange hand; high shall it flame,
And thirst eternal, never quenched, consume.
On him who wrought all things I place the blame;
Our wills are bound; we must and ever must."
* * * * *
"What art thou, potent, powerless worm of earth?
A god in fetters, or a flake of dust?
What is the world of soul, the world of thought?
Time, matter, space, the all-pervading whole,
And their creations, means through which they live?
Beyond their scope what is it never ends?
What is the Godhead, that most mighty chasm,
The first, but never to be mind-beholden, link
Which in itself unborn does all things bear?
My brain swims with delusions, misty, vain;
The inner light that burns with my breast
Throws on the darkness of the night
Its baseless pictures, shadowy simulacra
Of mine ownself as it within me lives;
Of such is made the world that I have known."
* * * * *
"But how if it should prove that soul and mind
And God, not empty thoughts, but beings are?
I cannot grasp the theme—my thought's in vain—
Forever firm with such dreams and me
Stand lying senses and sound reason's laws."

He determines to exchange doubt for certainty, and invokes the Evil Spirit, whom he conjures to show him

"bright and clear
The spirit world, and teach" him "how to rule
The weighty elements of thought and doubt."

The Evil Spirit answers the summons and renews the promise, exacting, as a forfeit, the soul of *Faust*. The Good Spirit endeavors to persuade *Faust* to desist, but in vain. As soon as the sacrifice is consummated, the Evil Spirit turns upon him scornfully and informs him, in terms that are suggestive of the "limits of the knowable," as described by Mr. Herbert Spencer and his school, that the knowledge he has so ardently longed for, and to attain which he has given his soul's life, is unattainable.

"Doubt stands eternal bound to mortal ken,
Which naught save superstition can transcend."

Space forbids our quoting the address of the Evil Spirit, which contains such un-Mephistophelean sentiments as the following:

"Let man strive hard and battle unto himself!
Such is his lot. Naught but the spirit pure
Freed from all fleshly bonds can ever know."

Reminded again and again, by the Evil Spirit, that Death alone can raze the walls that sever him from Truth, he at last stabs himself, dying to these words:

"Damnation evermore—but in thy bosom—
Perchance annihilation—or wisdom deep—
But Certainty at last!"

Mr. Phillips has performed a real service in giving us an English version of the "Faust" of Adalbert von Chamisso. His translation is in the main a careful one. If he has frequently failed to catch the grace as well as the force of the original, it should be borne in mind that Chamisso's verse is full of the sort of charm that cannot easily be given in another tongue. None other than a poet could, it seems to us, have successfully achieved the task attempted; and for this reason we cannot help thinking that Mr. Phillips would have done better had he given us a prose translation of the "Faust." In that case we should not have had: "Doubt stands eternal bound to mortal ken," for the German "Der Zweifel ist menschlichen Wissens Grenze," nor would memories of Pope have interfered to give us, as an equivalent for the line, "Die Hoffnung blüht dem Dulder: lern entbehren," the following couplet:

"Hope springs eternal in the breast of him
Who all things can support! learn to endure."

(Philadelphia. Printed privately for the author.)

ALCUNI SCRITTI DI GIUSEPPE DE SPUCHE.—The Prince of Galati, the author of this volume, is a Sicilian poet and classical scholar, much esteemed and respected by the Italian literary class. Like Leopardi, he is at the same time a poet and deeply versed in ancient Greek antiquities and the Greek authors. His poetry, however, (if one may judge from his translations,) is far from possessing the depth of passion and the beauty which characterize even the translations of Leopardi. In the present volume are included translations from Bion, Moschus, Sophocles, Musaeus and Isocrates. There is much elegance and poetical *verve* in the author's rendering of the Greek poets. But it is hard for the Germanic mind to appreciate French, Spanish, or Italian poetry, unless it is fused and animated by the very highest genius. There is in the mechanical staccato movement of the Latin language and its modern representatives that which seems to us to kill the life out of most poems written in them. It is pretty freely conceded among Germanic peoples, that the sonorous and richly inflectional German language is the modern tongue into which the most majestic of languages,—the Greek,—can be rendered with the least loss of rhythmic grandeur and power. But, contrasted with Greek, all other languages suffer, the Tuscan as well as the rest. The archaeological studies of the Prince of Galati show that deep knowledge of antiquity for which Italian *virtuosi* are famous. There are several valuable plates at the close of the volume illustrating matters treated of in the body of the work. (Tip. di P. Montagna & Cia., Palermo. 1881. Pp. 320. *Edizione accresciuta e ricorretta.*)

A PRODIGIOUS FOOL.—This is a remarkably easy novel to review, for there is nothing in it. The writer is quite possibly a very useful member of society in some capacity, but we should say that the title of the book furnishes a compact and exhaustive description of the author as author. A writer who talks of the wind rippling the surface of water "into an aqueous goose-flesh," debars himself from the reviewer's sympathy. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. 1881.)

ELEMENTS OF KNOWLEDGE.—Under such headings as Knowledge, God, Philosophy, Government, Morals, Judge Horace P. Biddle, of the Superior Court of Indiana, has formulated, in set propositions, a good deal of truth about a good many things, liberally coloring the thoughts with his own opinions, and freely intersprinkling many little homilies and rhetorical flourishes of his own which cannot be called elements of knowledge. A whole volume of short dogmatic propositions reminds us unpleasantly, of Joseph Cook. It is such a relief to have Mr. Cook entertaining those mammoth audiences in benighted Britain, and giving America a rest, that we dislike even to be reminded of him unseasonably. We cannot help thinking that, since Judge Biddle's volume is a popular and not a philosophical treatise, it would have been more palatable if it had been cast in the form of an essay, with a few introductory propositions at the beginning or end of each chapter. As it is, the whole might be condensed to one-fourth of its present bulk, or even one-tenth. There is tiresome iteration of the same thoughts on almost every page; and, in a set of propositions, repetition is fatal. The author's definitions are generally poor, because not exhaustive. To say that "philosophy is consciousness of phenomena," and "science is consciousness of order in phenomena," (I, § ii,) is to give but a partial and meagre definition of those great departments of thought. Lewes speaks better of philosophy when he calls it "the explanation of the world and of human destiny," and Martineau gives a better definition of science when he says it "consists in organizing the phenomena of the world into an intellectual scheme, reflecting the structure of its archetype." (Robert Clark & Co., Cincinnati. 1881. Pp. 245.)

DUNDERVIKSBORG AND OTHER TALES, "forming an epitome of modern European literature," by Frances C. Henderson.—This is a very curious volume, with a very curious title. It is a collection of seventeen love stories and plays, translated for the first time by the author, and each from a different language. With the exception of a few ugly foreign idioms, the translations are smooth, and seem to be well done. The author is not a trained *littérateur*, but certainly somewhat of a linguistic prodigy. That she calls her volume an "Epitome of European Literature" does it no harm, although it will be apt to excite a laugh. As an actual fact, it is in some degree representative of the lighter love-story literature of modern Europe. Many of the tales are capital, being from the most popular authors in each nation. The plays seem dismal reading, but possibly a few of them might be adapted for the English stage. It is to be regretted that the author should have committed the blunder of having chosen as the opening selection, as affording an epitome of English literature (?), a piece of her own, which resembles nothing so much as a careless private letter to a lady friend on domestic affairs. As a woman's letter in a daily newspaper, it would do very well, for it is bright and witty; but where it is, it is altogether out of place.

"Dunderviksborg" is a capital story of match-making, translated from the Swedish. "The Snow-Storm" is a tenderly pathetic and *spirituelle* little love tale, from the Russian of A. G. Pushkin. All of the stories are melodramatic in cast. "Black Eyes" is a sombre tale, the scene of which is laid in the last inhabitable village in Europe, "the black, steep and gigantic island Loppen." The maelstrom appears in the tale. The story suggests Fouqué's "Sunbeam," and Poe's "Maelstrom," and possesses some of the power of those tales. "Theodore, Comte de La Vie Littéraire," is a satirical, waggish story of two shipwrecked young gentlemen who took up literature as a trade in Paris. Among other whimsical adventures, Theodore tries journalism, and is told that "if he could make fun agreeably of every one who had become celebrated through his prose or his verse, he was free to develop his literary taste under the superintendence of two or three editors." "The Storm-Bride," from the Danish of Dr. E. C. Rask, is a sweet and charming little story, much like Hans Andersen's child-stories. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. 1881. Pp. 586.)

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

A BOOK of much interest, recently published by Brockhaus in Leipzig, is Oppert's work on Corea, "Das Verschlossene Land" ("The Closed Land"). Oppert is a resolute and experienced discoverer and traveller, who set his heart on the great work of opening up Corea to the world. He failed in this object, but his record of his various expeditions is extremely interesting and fresh. Corea is a mysterious land. Nobody knows anything about it, to speak of. Even from China and Japan it has held itself almost entirely aloof. Ever since the invasion by the Japanese hero, Taikosama, at the close of the sixteenth century, Corea has been in no closer connection with China and Japan than that which comes from sending diplomatic representatives to the courts of these powers. Oppert's first voyage to Corea was in 1866. Landing on the South and West coast, he was received in a friendly manner, by people dressed all in white. A courteous mandarin showed them over several large and well-built villages, but would not permit them to approach the chief city of the district. When they returned to the coast, they took with them the impression of having visited a pretty thickly populated, well-built and patriarchally-governed land, whose people, of all ranks, had conducted themselves in a more orderly and worthy manner than a similarly large Chinese population would have done, if taken by surprise in the same way. From several not unfavorable utterances of the mandarin, respecting intercourse with the outer world, they received the impression that prudent action would insure friendly relations, even with the Government. In his next visit, Oppert attempted to ascend the river on which the city Säul lies (a city called on the maps Kingitao). After long search, he discovered the river, and steamed up its channel for some fifty geographical miles; but lack of coal, and difficulties in the channels, compelled him to turn back when within a few miles of the city. Nearly two years later, Oppert made his third and last voyage to Corea, and engaged in the following romantic adventure: In the neighborhood of an estuary of Jerome Bay, a place which had been several times visited by him, in a desolate region, upon a mountain, the royal family of Corea had hidden certain precious relics, upon the possession of which they believed their future to depend. The then Regent cherished this belief in a very high degree, since he was of a very superstitious nature. Some fugitive Coreans, who had left their homes and become converts to Catholicism, devised a plan for opening up Corea, both to Christianity and to foreign trade; and they communicated their plan to Oppert. It was nothing less than the daring scheme of carrying off the royal relics, and thus forcing the Regent to comply with their demands. Oppert fell in with their plan, but the expedition failed, owing to the fact that the boat's-crew found it impossible to remove the huge rock which blocked up the entrance to the cavern. On their return to the ship, they were attacked, and had one man killed and several wounded. This reads like an adventure out of the "Arabian Nights;" but the dry, matter-of-fact style of Oppert, and his open and free naming and description of persons and places, leaves no doubt in the reader's mind as to his sincerity.

Mr. Francis Parkman will spend the coming summer in the prosecution of his historical studies in London and Paris.

Macmillan & Co. announce a book on the South African problem which should be of equal interest and value,—"Blacks, Boers and British," by Mr. F. R. Stratham.

A paper by the late Lady Blanche Murphy is to appear shortly in the *Catholic World*,—"The Greek Monasteries of Mount Athos."

Mr. George H. Ellis, of Boston, announces for early publication the "Channing Centenary Volume," edited by Dr. Russell N. Bellows, of New York, a large octavo volume containing reports of the principal Channing memorial meetings of last year in America and Great Britain, extracts from the many tributes of the press, and the tributes to Channing's memory by leading men of all branches of the Church Universal.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. announce for immediate publication a popular edition of Carlyle's "Essays."

Science has been all the rage during the past few days, what with Scribner's publication of Mr. St. George Mivart's book on "The Cat," Appleton's Helmholtz's "Popular Lectures on Scientific Subjects," and of Semper's "Animal Life as Affected by the Natural Conditions of Existence," and Lippincott's Mr. Rushton M. Dorman's "Origin of Primitive Superstitions."

An important work announced for early publication by George H. Ellis of Boston, is a new edition of "Man's Origin and Destiny: Sketched on the Platform of the Sciences," by Professor J. P. Lesley, State Geologist of Pennsylvania, and Secretary of the American Philosophical Society. No American Geologist is better known or more highly honored abroad. This volume, originally a course of Lowell Institute lectures, was first published in England, by Trübner & Co., who exported to this country a small, high-priced edition, now out of print. Professor Lesley has recently very carefully revised the whole, and has written six new chapters on Man's Destiny, which will much enhance the value of the volume.

The London correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian* writes to that paper as follows:

"Mr. Thomas Hughes, the founder of the co-operative Broad Church colony in Rugby, Tennessee, has gathered together his letters anent the enterprise, and, welding them into a complete narrative, will publish them immediately. Another bit of literary gossip is that Professor Robertson Smith, willing to give the heresy-hunters new prey, will issue in a volume twelve lectures on 'The Old Testament in the Jewish Church.' That he should do so at the moment when he is suspended for saying that chapters in Isaiah were first issued as 'literary broadsides' shows some courage. Another work likely to attract some attention is the Duke of Argyll's 'Unity of Nature,' in which he advances the higher teleological argument against the materialists."

A new English magazine is announced, with the comprehensive title of *Our Times*, to deal entirely with practical questions.

Trübner of London has issued a volume of "Zulu Isaga," or "Out-of-the-Way Sayings of the Zulus," reprinted from the *Natal Colonist*, to which they were originally contributed by a native Zulu missionary. They form an interesting addition to our knowledge of South African folk-lore and customs.

Herr Leopold von Ranke has sanctioned an English translation of his "History of the World."

A "Draper's Dictionary," is one of the novelties in English publications. It illustrates historically the technical terms of the trade by quotations from various sources—for example, under "Apron," there is a whole host of references from Shakespeare, Spencer, Pope, Goldsmith, &c.

The experiment of publishing a six-shilling edition of Tennyson's works has been tried in England, and has proved a great success. Over 100,000 copies have already been sold, and the *Academy* expresses the hope that Browning will sanction a similar edition of his poems. It may be added that of his familiar verses, "How they brought the good news from Ghent to Aix," Mr. Browning writes: "There is no sort of historical foundation for the poem about 'Good News to Ghent' [Aix?]. I wrote it under the bulwark of a vessel, off the African coast, after I had been at sea long enough to appreciate even the fancy of a gallop on the back of a certain good horse 'York,' then in my stable at home. It was written in pencil on the fly-leaf of Bartolio's 'Symboli,' I remember."

A remarkable volume of alleged poetry—"Song-Bloom,"—has been issued by an English bard, Mr. George Barlow. It is, to use his favorite word, "utter," and contains some scores of such wonderful couplets as this:

"Rather rise to God's own Son, the Victor,
Serpentine and as a snake-constrictor."

The last instalment of "The Folk-Lore Record," contains a remarkable paper by Mr. Coote on M. Galland's tales, showing that three of our most cherished Arabian Nights stories—Aladdin, Ali-Baba, and Prince Ahmed—are not Arabian at all, but compilations made from unwritten sources by the enterprising French translator. It is hard to give up at this time of day our life-long belief in the accepted origin of the Wonderful Lamp and the Forty Thieves; but Mr. Coote tells us that no Arabic, Persian, or Indian manuscript has ever been found to contain them, and that they are unquestionably due to M. Galland himself working upon a basis of old folk-lore tales, originally Eastern, but preserved in Greece, Italy, Sicily and Constantinople.

The Chevalier Ernst de Bunsen has written a very elaborate paper on "The Times of Israel's Servitude and Sojourning in Egypt." He holds that the earliest possible date for the birth of Moses is B. C. 1598, and that Abraham entered Egypt 215 years before Jacob, when the Hebrew servitude commenced. Starting from the former, the exodus took place 215 years earlier than has hitherto been supposed by Biblical and by Egyptian authorities, not towards the end of Dynasty XIX., but at the beginning of Dynasty XVIII.

Mr. Clark Russell, the author of "The Wreck of the Grosvenor," has completed and will shortly publish another nautical story, "An Ocean Free-Lance," the log of a

privateer in 1812. It is to be hoped that the new story may be more accurate in its employment of nautical terms than its popular predecessor was.

Trübner of London has published a second edition of George Eliot's translation of "Feuerbach's Essence of Christianity." The same publisher announces an important book, "A Social History of the Races of Mankind," by Mr. A. Featherman, in about ten volumes octavo, the first of which will appear in June.

Miss Braddon, it is understood, has given up fiction, and taken to writing for the stage.

Professor John Nichol, who, by the way, was one of the most faithful friends of the North in England during the great Rebellion, has finished his long-promised volume, "The Death of Themistocles, and Other Poems," and also promises to publish at an early date a book of "Critical Estimates," containing papers on Tennyson, Macaulay, Dickens, Thackeray, Carlyle, and other authors of the Victorian period.

M. Paul de Rémusat will publish shortly, through Calmann Lévy, of Paris, two volumes of his grandmother's letters during the period 1804-1814, which should be an important supplement to the "Memoirs."

Talleyrand's correspondence with Louis XVIII. during the Congress of Vienna, will be published next week, in all probability. The work will be issued simultaneously in French, English and German.

M. Henri Martin, the eminent French historian, will spend the summer in Algeria, studying the antiquarian remains in the province of Constantine, with a view to the preparation of a book on the subject.

Louis Blanc has published the tenth and last volume of his "History of Ten Years," dealing with the events discussed in England in 1870.

Victor Cherbuliez has written a new novel, "Noirs et Rouges," which, to the charm of an interesting plot and his own exquisite management, adds the high value of being a careful and interesting study of the social and political life of the Third Republic.

Tourgénoff is issuing a new novel in a Russian journal in the form of "Reminiscences." A London literary weekly says it contains a sketch of a Russian country house, inhabited by a quaint old couple, in the days gone by. "Every page displays that delicacy of touch and that blending of the true pathos and humor which invest all of M. Tourgénoff's work with so peculiar a charm."

The eleventh volume of the "Sacred Books of the East," which is soon to appear, will contain translations of some important Suttas of the Buddhist canon by Mr. Rhys Davids. The titles are, "The Book of the Great Decease," "The Foundation of the Kingdom of Righteousness," "The Knowledge of the Vedas," "If He should Desire," "Barrenness and Bondage," "Legend of the Great King of Glory," and "All the Asavas." Several of these texts have not been translated before.

DRIFT.

—None of the obituaries mentioned the story of Mr. Disraeli's panegyric on the Duke of Wellington, which proved to have been cribbed from Thiers's article, in a French review, on Marshal Gouvier de Saint-Cyr. A neat epigram on the affair appeared in *The Examiner*:

"In sounding great Wellington's praise,
Dizzy's grief and his truth both appear;
For a flood of great Thiers he lets fall,
Which were certainly meant for Saint-Cyr."

—Probably the most famous of the many phrases with which Lord Beaconsfield's name is connected, is that concerning the critics. "You know who the critics are, —the men who have failed in literature and art," is the expression, almost in the very words, of a thought which had already occurred to Balzac, Dumas the elder, Pope, Shenstone and Dryden. The last wrote, in his "Siege of Grenada":

"Those who write ill and those who ne'er durst write,
Turn critics out of mere revenge and spite."

—Several curious plagiarisms, or, at least, parallelisms, might be found in Lord Beaconsfield's books and speeches. The peroration of his speech on the Corn Law Bill (May 15, 1846,) was taken from Urquhart's "Diplomatic Transactions in Central Asia." In the first edition of "Venetia," a passage was "conveyed" from Macaulay's essay on Byron. The famous speech about "Extinct Volcanoes," seems to have been inspired by Hope's "Anastasius," a book of which there are traces to be found in "Tancred."

—A notable trait of the dead man was his fidelity to his friends. Lord John Manners was one of his earliest disciples and friends, and though he was made a butt of Liberal satire for his famous lines about England's "Old Nobility," and has never been repudiated a great man, he became Cabinet Minister. Years ago Lord John had the courage to act on his conviction that Mr. Disraeli was a remarkable young man, in spite of the sneers and irritation of his father, the Duke of Rutland. His elder brother, the present Duke of Rutland, on the other hand, never shared this faith in the brilliant young author of "Vivian Grey," and the master of England did not forget him. "I see the papers will insist on making you a duke," said a friend to the Premier after his triumphal return from Berlin. "Why don't you make yourself one?" "Make myself a duke?" he replied, with the least little gleam of a smile crossing his sphinx-like features. "Make myself a duke? Why! Rutland's a duke!"

—The anagrammatists, a couple of years ago, discovered that "Disraeli" made "I lead, sir," and "Gladstone"—"G. leads not." On the other hand, another cheap wit put it "Gladstone—Doesn't lag," while "Disraeli" made "Idle airs," and Beaconsfield in Latin, "Fidens calebo," and in English, "Coined Fables."

—Lord Beaconsfield is the topic of the week; but it will be found that the interest in his life and actions will not last long or increase greatly. Most of the obituary notices of him made the mistake of giving as his birth-day December 21, 1805. In reality, he was born December 21, 1804.

—Not only has there been an uncertainty as to the time of his birth, but the place of his birth is absolutely unknown; it is not definitely known by whom he was taken to be baptized, and there is not the slightest record of his school-life preserved. The story of his family is even attacked as fanciful, and apparently with some force. What is not so generally known, is that one of the playmates, or, at least, neighbors, of the little Jewish boy, was John Henry Newman. The Hebrew was to become the champion of the Church, and the pious little Protestant the mainstay and ornament of English Romanism.

—At the reception given to Lord Beaconsfield in Guildhall, when he brought back "Peace with honor" from Berlin, there appeared at the gate a man in a low-crowned felt hat, with his head bent, his gaiters a mass of mud, his coat all muddy,—even his face covered with splashes. The police were for pushing him back at once, as an impudent ragamuffin, who had no right among the gorgeous carriage people waiting there for friends to pass them into the Guildhall. But this travel-worn and travel-stained individual produced an official ticket for one of the best places within the building, and so passed in, to the discomfiture of the beadle, among the spotlessly attired and fashionable throng, who had driven up protected from the rain and mire in comfortable equipages. He was a Jewish rabbi, who had walked all the way from a distant part of London, determined to welcome the Earl of Beaconsfield, and forbidden by his religion to ride on the Sabbath day.

At the time of this same Treaty of Berlin, an interesting story, probably a fiction, was told in the Vienna *Presse*, of how Lord Beaconsfield gained a victory over the Russian plenipotentiaries on the question of the Armenian frontier. Count Schouvaloff was just beginning to read his report on the subject to the Congress, when Lord Beaconsfield observed that he had no map of the country. The delegates looked over their papers, but no extra map could be found. At last Prince Gortschakoff discovered one in his portfolio and handed it to his Lordship. Count Schouvaloff then read the Russian proposal, tracing the line of the new frontier; but Lord Beaconsfield, who had carefully studied the map lent him by Prince Gortschakoff, described with great minuteness another line, restoring to Turkey a portion of the Armenian territory conquered from her, which he proposed for adoption in preference to that advocated by Russia. After a long discussion, in which Lord Beaconsfield showed extraordinary knowledge of Armenian geography, his proposal was accepted, much to the discomfiture of the Russian delegates, who could not understand how Lord Beaconsfield could have managed to improvise a frontier which was so advantageous to Turkey, and to which, at the same time, no reasonable objection could be urged by Russia. At length Prince Gortschakoff solved the mystery. He had lent Lord Beaconsfield the map on which was traced a line showing what were the greatest concessions Russia would be prepared to make if her original proposal were not acceded to." He was more fortunate, if the *raconteur* told the truth, than Lord Salisbury was at Constantinople, when he asked the Turks if they would have any objection to ceding a strip of coast on the Adriatic to Montenegro, and when they said, "Certainly not," proposed the subject in the Conference and was astonished to find that it belonged to Austria.

—The French have two sea-side schools of zoölogy similar to the projected Penikese school of Professor Agassiz, and to that of Johns Hopkins University. The report of M. de Lacasze-Duthiers to the Academy of Sciences, reveals that these "stations" at Roscoff and at Wimereux are in the most flourishing condition. Each began in a very humble way, indeed. At Roscoff the mean shed of 1872 has been replaced by a large and comfortable Government building, with every convenience. The best apparatus is now provided. The same is true of the Wimereux station.

—Newnham has now taken its rightful name of "College," and its girl-undergraduates fill both its North and South Halls, for it has had to be doubled since it began. An amusing anecdote is told of the way in which the Premier's daughter has made herself almost a necessity of every part of the college life. How she fills her place in the highest section of it, is known to all; but a few months ago the gas in a lecture-room went out, and at once rose the familiar cry, "Where's Miss Gladstone?" She was the one to set everything right.

Re-incarnation is the topic of the time among Spiritualists, the doctrine including that of the interchangeableness of the sexes.

—The *Antiquary*, an interesting English magazine published by Elliot Stock, of London, and imported by J. W. Bouton, of New York, is now in its second year. It was edited for a while by Mr. Edward Walford, who resigned not long ago, and no editor's name now appears on the cover. We have heard it rumored that his successor was Mr. Austin Dobson, who, although best known as a poet, has a relish of the old as keen as Walter Scott's. To the first number of the *Antiquary*, Mr. Dobson contributed a delightful little prologue in verse, and the second volume is in like manner ushered in by this *ballade-prologue* from his ever graceful pen:—

"Friends that we know not," late we said,
We know you now, true friends, who still,
Where'er Time's tireless scythe has led,
Have wrought with us through good and ill—
Have toiled the weary sheaves to fill,
Hail, then, O known and tried!—and you
Who know us not to-day, but will—
Hail to you all, Old Friends and New!

With no scant store our barns are fed :
The full sacks bulge by door and sill,
With grain the threshing-floors are spread,
The piled grist feeds the humbling mill;
And, but for you, all this were nil—
A harvest of lean ears and few,
But for your service, friends, and skill :
Hail to you all, Old Friends and New.

But hark!—Is that the Reaper's tread?
Come, let us glean once more until
Here, where the snowdrop lifts its head,
The days bring round the daffodil ;
Till winds the last June roses kill,
And Autumn comes ; till, 'neath the yew,
Once more we cry, with Winter chill,
Hail to you all, Old Friends and New!

ENVY.

Come! Unto all a horn we spill,
Brimmed with a foaming Yule-tide brew.
Hail to you all, by vale and hill!—
Hail to you all, Old Friends and New!

FINANCE.

NEW YORK, April 20, 1881.

Up to yesterday the general characteristic of the speculation in stocks during the week ending to-day, was a gradual shrinkage of values, accompanied by an increase of activity. The movement of prices was marked by the usual reaction, but after every rally the subsequent declines left quotations lower. Lowest prices for the week, which were generally recorded within the past two days, were 3 to over 5 per cent. below the final figures on last Wednesday; but the reckless selling of "short" stock, induced by the extent and long continuance of the decline, enabled the "bull" party to engineer a covering movement that reinstated prices at the close considerably. Nevertheless, the market, as a whole, ends lower, and for several active stocks—such as the Vanderbilts, the coal shares and Pacific Mail—the losses are about 1 to 3 per cent.

It is not improbable that there is a sufficient "short" interest in the market still remaining to exert an influence on prices for a few days to come. Whenever there is no healthy demand for stocks, Wall Street is greatly prone to over-sell the list, thus furnishing an element of strength of a certain sort to what might have been otherwise a dilapidated speculation. But the market of the last few weeks has, with all its occasional recoveries and the spasmodic strength at times injected into it, been a falling one, quotations wasting away like a consumptive whose declining days are lightened now and then with gleams of hope. To what extent this condition may carry prices downward, it is impossible to predict, and it is within the range of possibility—for all things appear at times possible to Wall Street,—that later on speculation may take a renewed start from a basis not far below ruling prices. But such an event appears to be only barely possible, and as yet no sign has been given that the speculative situation has changed. The larger operators are believed to be uninterested on the "bull" side; the purchases of the public are *nil*, and the poor distribution of stocks on Wall Street renders the maintenance of the existing fabric of prices a difficult and dangerous task.

If the prosperity of the railroads were to be assured upon even last year's basis,—if it were evident that the crops would be fair, and be profitably marketed, and if the prospects for general summer business were brighter than they now are,—it would be a not untrying labor for the holders of stocks to induce buying at present high figures. What trials must vex the spirit of holders of stocks for some months to come, can be readily realized when it is remembered that our assumption is the reverse of the present outlook. It is now believed that a large part of the winter wheat crop has been destroyed by the severity of the winter, and for the spring crop not even is the ground broken yet. The railroads suffered heavy losses of earnings, while the operating expenses were largely increased, during the past winter months; and it is hazarding little to predict that they will experience difficulty in even maintaining their earnings up to last year's basis during the coming few weeks, let alone increasing them sufficiently to make up for the winter's losses. Even the April reports of the Northwestern roads, with the recent freer movements of traffic, show as yet no gain from last year's earnings, analyzing them with regard to increased mileage, which has been accompanied by an increase of interest-bearing obligations. For instance, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad shows an increase in earnings for the second week of this month of about \$108,000. But the earnings *per mile* were \$815, against \$855 *per mile* in the same week last year, an actual decrease *per mile* of \$40. So with the Chicago and Northwestern Road, which increased its earnings during the second week in April \$43,000, but on additional mileage of 321 miles. The showing of even the New York Central Road, for the six months ending March 30 last, is also far from flattering. In spite of the enormous business gained in the almost phenomenal months of October and November, 1880, the falling off in earnings during the following four months left the net result of the six months substantially unchanged from those of 1880, the actual figures being as follows: 1880, \$16,312,316; 1881, \$16,342,568; increase for the six months of 1881, \$30,252! It is true that the Executive Committee of the railroads on last Saturday "restored" rates on grain, by resolution, to the basis of 30 cents per 100 pounds from Chicago to New York, but it is farcical to imagine that this rate will be maintained a moment after it is demonstrated that it will not command sufficient business for all the restive roads. The only immediate effect of the Committee's action, judging from the sentiments expressed at the West, will be to check shipments to a considerable extent. Add to these facts and considerations the extent to which new competing lines are being pushed,—not on paper, but backed by substantial and well-known capitalists,—and we have a total result that makes Lake Shore stock at 125 or 130, or St. Paul stock at 110 or 112, look dear, even to speculators who, in the whirl of the early wild January speculation, were not appalled at the former at 135, or the latter at 124.

Railroad bonds have been moderately active and irregular, but the better classes have been about steady, although the speculative issues generally are lower. In some of the junior issues there has been spirited speculation, and at handsomely advancing figures. But these figures largely reflect only the effort of manipulation. State bonds are showing a disposition to relapse into their old-time dullness, but the Southern State issues have kept steady, and a sharp advance has been recorded in the North Carolina 4 per cent. consols. Principally caused by the shifting of bonds held by the national banks to secure note circulation, the Government bond market has been rather active. Prices were firm through the week, but closed a little easier for the 5s and 6s. The high figure to which the 6s have risen suggests the idea that the belief that these bonds will be indefinitely extended prevails to a greater extent than the opinion that the next Congress will authorize a new 3 per cent. loan at par.

The coal trade continues sluggish, and curtailment of the output still seems to be required for the successful maintenance of present prices. The anthracite production

for the month of March, 1881, is reported at 2,225,842 tons, against 1,746,872 tons for the corresponding month last year, an increase of 478,970 tons. From January 1 to March 30, this year, the output was 6,016,661 tons, with half-time suspension ruling for one month, against 4,807,758 tons during the corresponding period in 1880,—a gain of 1,208,902 tons.

The bank statement of last week, except in the item of specie to which we have just referred, and which failed to account for nearly \$2,000,000, including that amount received from the Philadelphia Mint, was without any particular feature, although it was decidedly favorable, showing that the associated banks now hold over \$76,000,000 in reserve, against deposits of \$288,800,000, or an average of 26.40 per cent. of the deposit. As the weak was a broken one, Good Friday being generally observed as a holiday, the clearances, which were unusually light from day to day, were reduced to the smallest extent amount that has been reported during the past three months.

The plan of the Secretary of the Treasury for refunding the 6 per cent. bonds, which mature on July 1, by extending the bonds for an indefinite period at 3½ per cent., promises to be eminently successful. The extended bonds are now selling in the New York market at a premium of 1½ per cent, deliverable on July 1, and it is probable that the Secretary will not find it necessary to sell any portion of the \$104,000,000 4 or 4½ per cents. to meet the small amount of 6s that will be offered for payment. The question as to the legality of the scheme, however, is one which may receive more attention next winter, after the assembling of Congress, than at present.

The continued cold and unfavorable weather far beyond the unusual winter season, has had a depressing effect upon commercial transactions, and the spring trade promises to be a short one, although active while it lasts. It is only a few years ago that grave doubts were entertained respecting the ability to raise cotton at a profit in the Southern States without slave labor. To-day many of the leading Southern papers are advocating the desirability of reducing the product by what may be considered unnatural means, the price having fallen so low on account of over-production as to make the raising of cotton unprofitable to the planter and dangerous to the factor who makes advances on account of the growing crop. In commenting on the situation, the New Orleans *Picayune* of recent date says: "For five years in succession, each spring has witnessed a great increase in the acreage devoted to the staple, and, despite all drawbacks, the crop has augmented in such a ratio that, even with the revival of business all over the world, and with every loom and spindle on both sides the Atlantic fully employed, the stocks are accumulating. Under these circumstances, factors consider it prudent to curtail advances to planters, and thus aid in diverting labor into other productive channels. Where there was active competition to secure the custom of planters last year, there was great difficulty this season in procuring the smallest accommodation. Whether this will result in reducing the acreage devoted to cotton, and direct attention to the production of food, remains to be seen. It will at all events engender economy, and if there is a large crop and low prices, it will not leave the planters without some profits."

A very encouraging feature connected with the development of the South is found in the tables recently prepared by the statistician of the Agricultural Department, showing the average price of improved and of wood land in each of the States and Territories and the average increase in values of those lands. The average rate of increase in the cotton States is about 15 per cent., while in South Carolina the value of farm lands is 18 per cent higher than a year ago, the increase in that State exceeding that of any other other portion of the country. Virginia lands have also increased 12.06 and West Virginia lands 10.02, while Tennessee lands show a gain of 10.03. Northern capitalists are not slow in recognizing the returning prosperity of the Southern States. Within the past few weeks a number of New York representative men have visited the South for the purpose of satisfying themselves as to its true condition. Already important railroad extensions have been begun in various parts of that portion of the country, and there is very good reason to believe that a large amount of Northern capital now seeking investment will be employed at an early day in restoring the country to a condition of prosperity heretofore unknown.

The development of the Mississippi River, as the great highway by which the products of the Mississippi Valley will find their way to foreign countries, is at present exciting a great deal of attention both East and West, and while there are several additional trunk lines of railways between the East and the West now under way, at least two of which it is promised will be completed during the current year, it is a grave question for railroad managers to consider as to whether the future traffic by the trunk lines will not be largely reduced by the diversion of that traffic by the way of the Mississippi River. For the past two years, the trunk lines have done an enormous business, and notwithstanding the early opening of the Northern water route, the quantity of grain yet to come forward is undoubtedly sufficient to give them a good business for some time to come. Nevertheless, an apparent realization on the part of some of the railroad managers, of the fact that the future control of this business is, to say the least, problematical, has done more towards unsettling the practically harmonious arrangements that have existed for the past two years between the trunk lines than anything that has occurred since the appointment of Commissioner Fink as the autocrat of railroad transportation.

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